auxiliary verbs

1 I like cats, but my husband **doesn't**. 1.14
Sally's coming tonight, but Angela **isn't**.

2 **A** I loved his latest film.
B **So did I.**
A I haven't finished the book yet.
B **Neither (Nor) have I.**
Andrew's a doctor and **so is his wife**.

3 **A** I don't like shopping online.
B I **do**. I buy a lot of my clothes online.

4 **A** I went to a psychic yesterday.
B **Did you?**
A I'll make dinner tonight.
B **Will you?** That's great!

5 **A** You didn't lock the door!
B I **did** lock it; I know I **did**.
A Silvia isn't coming.
B She **is** coming. I've just spoken to her.

6 You won't forget, **will** you?
She can speak Italian, **can't** she?

- We use auxiliary verbs (*do, have*, etc.) or modal verbs (*can, must*, etc.):

1 to avoid repeating the main verb / verb phrase, e.g. **NOT** ~~*I like cats, but my husband doesn't* **like cats**~~.

2 with *so* and *neither* to say that someone or something is the same. Use *so* + auxiliary + subject to respond to a statement with a positive verb, and *neither* (or *nor*) + auxiliary + subject to respond to a statement with a negative verb.

- We use a positive auxiliary verb after *neither* (or *nor*), e.g. *Neither did I.* **NOT** ~~*Neither didn't I.*~~

3 to respond to a statement and say that you (or someone or something) are different.

4 to make 'reply questions'. These often show interest or surprise.

5 to show emphasis in a positive sentence, often when you want to contradict what somebody says. With the present / past simple, we add *do / does / did* before the main verb. With other auxiliaries, e.g. *be, have, will*, the auxiliary verb is stressed and not contracted.

6 to make question tags, we use a positive auxiliary with a negative verb, and a negative auxiliary with a positive verb.

- Question tags are often used simply to ask another person to agree with you, e.g. *It's a nice day, isn't it?* In this case, the question tag is said with falling intonation, i.e. the voice goes down.
- Question tags can also be used to check something you think is true, e.g. *She's a painter, isn't she?* In this case, the question tag is said with rising intonation, as in a normal *yes / no* question.

a Complete the mini-conversations with an auxiliary or modal verb.

A You didn't remember to buy coffee.
B I *did* remember. It's in the cupboard.

1 **A** He's booked the flights, _____ he?
B Yes, I think so.

2 **A** It's hot today, _____ it?
B Yes, it's boiling.

3 **A** Why don't you like classical music?
B I _____ like it, but it isn't my favourite.

4 **A** I wouldn't like to be a celebrity.
B Neither _____ I.

5 **A** Mike is arriving tomorrow!
B _____ he? I thought he was arriving today.

6 **A** What did you think of the film?
B Tom liked it, but I _____. I thought it was awful.

7 **A** Emma doesn't like me.
B She _____ like you. She just doesn't want to go out with you.

8 **A** Are you a vegetarian?
B Yes, I am, and so _____ my boyfriend.

9 **A** You'll remember to call me, _____ you?
B Yes, of course!

10 I really want to go to Egypt, but my boyfriend _____. He hates the heat.

b Complete the conversation with a suitable auxiliary verb.

A You're Tom's sister, *aren't* you?
B Yes, I'm Carla.
A It's a great club, [1]_____ it?
B Well, it's OK. But I don't like the music much.
A [2]_____ you? I love it! I've never been here before.
B Neither [3]_____ I. I don't go clubbing very often.
A Oh, [4]_____ you? I [5]_____. In fact, I usually go most weekends.
B [6]_____ you? I can't afford to go out every weekend.
A I didn't see you at Tom's birthday party last Saturday. Why [7]_____ you go?
B I [8]_____ go, but I arrived really late because my car broke down.
A Oh, that's why I didn't see you. I left early.
B I fancy a drink. I'm really thirsty after all that dancing.
A So [9]_____ I. Let's go to the bar.

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