



Question Tags

What is a question tag?

A **question tag** is a little interrogate structure added to the end of a sentence. It converts a sentence into a question.

*We are happy, aren't we?
They will be here, won't they?
She was always interesting, wasn't she?*

Phrases with question tags don't use question words. Instead, they use auxiliary verbs, which require only a “yes” or “no” answer.

Question tags are very common in British English, but they're often rhetorical and don't require an answer.

In slang British English, mostly in London, you'll find the word "*innit*" replaces the question tag structure. This shouldn't be written as it's extremely informal and grammatically incorrect.

We are happy, innit?
They will be here, innit?
She was always interesting, innit?

Question tags are not as common in American English. In fact, the word “*right*” is often used to replace the question tag structure.

We are happy, right?
They will be here, right?
She was always interesting, right?

We are happy, **aren't we?**
They will be here, **won't they?**
She was always interesting, **wasn't she?**

We are happy, aren't we?
They will be here, won't they?
She was always interesting, wasn't she?



We are happy, aren't we?

They will be here, won't they?

She was always interesting, wasn't she?



We aren't happy, are we?

They won't be here, will they?

She wasn't always interesting, was she?



You've cleaned your room, have you?

	Present	Past	Future
Simple form	DO BE	DID WAS/WERE	WILL
Continuous form	BE	WAS/WERE	WILL
Perfect form	HAVE	HAD	WILL
Perfect Continuous form	HAVE	HAD	WILL

Present Simple



I watch TV, don't I?



She reads a book, doesn't she?



I don't go shopping, do I?



He doesn't run, does he?

Present Simple



We are happy, aren't we?

It is open, isn't it?

I am here, aren't I?

Present Simple



You aren't sad, are you?
He isn't handsome, is he?
I'm not fat, am I?

Past Simple



I watched TV, didn't I?



She ran a marathon, didn't she?



I didn't go shopping, did I?



He didn't sing, did he?

Past Simple



We were happy, weren't we?



It was open, wasn't it?



You weren't sad, were you?

He wasn't handsome, was he?

Present Continuous



I am watching TV, aren't I?



She is reading a book, isn't she?



I'm not going shopping, am I?



He isn't running, is he?

Past Continuous



I was watching TV, wasn't I?



We were reading a book, weren't we?



I wasn't going shopping, was I?



They weren't running, were they?

Present Perfect



I have watched TV, haven't I?
He has read a book, hasn't he?



I haven't gone shopping, have I?
He hasn't run, has he?

Past Perfect



I had watched TV, hadn't I?
He had read a book, hadn't he?



I hadn't gone shopping, had I?
He hadn't run, had he?



Present Perfect Continuous



I have been watching TV, haven't I?



He has been reading a book, hasn't he?



I haven't been shopping, have I?



He hasn't been running, has he?

Past Perfect Continuous



I had been watching TV, hadn't I?



He had been reading a book, hadn't he?



I hadn't been shopping, had I?



He hadn't been running, had he?

Future Tenses



We will be happy, won't we?
It will open, won't it?



You won't be sad, will you?
He won't shop, will he?

There



There is a TV, isn't there?

There are some books, aren't there?



There isn't a shop, is there?

There aren't any books, are there?

Suggestion

SHALL

Let's go to the shops, shall we?

Imperative

WILL

Give me that book, will you?
Give me that book, won't you?



Look out for negative words!

She  hardly  worked, did she?



Be careful with nobody / everybody

Everybody is here, aren't they?



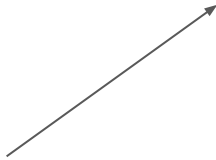
Replace names with pronouns

Hannah has arrived, hasn't she?

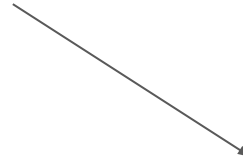
What is intonation?

Intonation is the variation in pitch of spoken language.

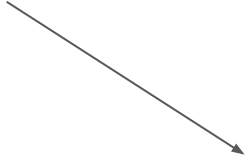
rising



falling



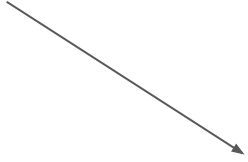
falling



You arrive at 4pm, don't you?



falling

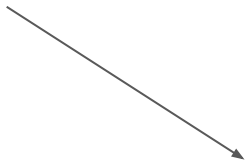


You arrive at 4pm, don't you?

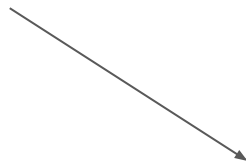


Rhetorical question

falling

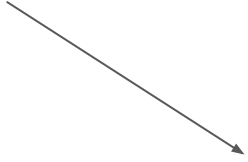


You arrive at 4pm, don't you?



Almost certain they agree

falling

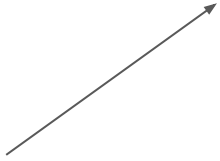


You arrive at 4pm, don't you?

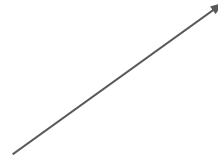


Persuade

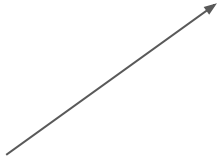
rising



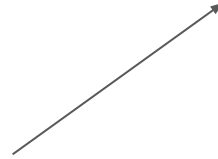
We're OK, aren't we?



rising

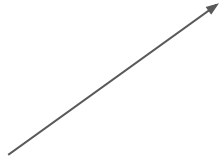


We're OK, aren't we?

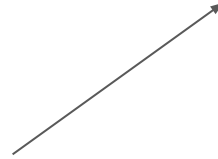


Less certain of answer

rising

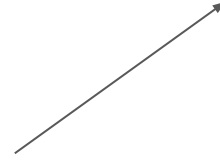
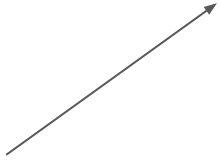


We're OK, aren't we?



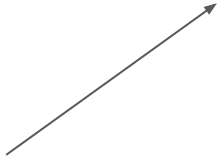
Expect a response

rising

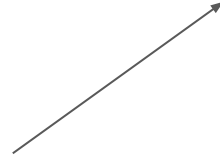


You cleaned your room, did you?

rising

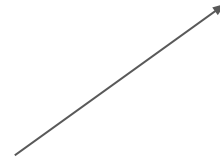
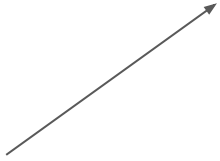


You cleaned your room, did you?



Sarcasm

rising



You cleaned your room, did you?

Interest



Practice 1

Add the correct question tag.

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, _____?
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, _____?
- 3) They finished the project, _____?
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, _____?
- 5) You will stay here next week, _____?
- 6) She wants to win, _____?
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, _____?
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she**?
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, _____?
- 3) They finished the project, _____?
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, _____?
- 5) You will stay here next week, _____?
- 6) She wants to win, _____?
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, _____?
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, _____?
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, _____?
- 5) You will stay here next week, _____?
- 6) She wants to win, _____?
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, _____?
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, _____?
- 5) You will stay here next week, _____?
- 6) She wants to win, _____?
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, _____?
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, **should you?**
- 5) You will stay here next week, _____?
- 6) She wants to win, _____?
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, _____?
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, **should you?**
- 5) You will stay here next week, **won't you?**
- 6) She wants to win, _____?
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, _____?
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, **should you?**
- 5) You will stay here next week, **won't you?**
- 6) She wants to win, **doesn't she?**
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, _____?
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, **should you?**
- 5) You will stay here next week, **won't you?**
- 6) She wants to win, **doesn't she?**
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, **isn't there?**
- 8) We must speak more quietly, _____?
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, **should you?**
- 5) You will stay here next week, **won't you?**
- 6) She wants to win, **doesn't she?**
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, **isn't there?**
- 8) We must speak more quietly, **mustn't we?**
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, _____?
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, **should you?**
- 5) You will stay here next week, **won't you?**
- 6) She wants to win, **doesn't she?**
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, **isn't there?**
- 8) We must speak more quietly, **mustn't we?**
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, **doesn't it?**
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, _____?

- 1) She doesn't really like animals, **does she?**
- 2) We were so tired after the exam, **weren't we?**
- 3) They finished the project, **didn't they?**
- 4) You shouldn't cry so much, **should you?**
- 5) You will stay here next week, **won't you?**
- 6) She wants to win, **doesn't she?**
- 7) There is pizza in the fridge, **isn't there?**
- 8) We must speak more quietly, **mustn't we?**
- 9) The train gets in at 5pm, **doesn't it?**
- 10) She has already bought the tickets, **hasn't she?**

- 1) They aren't very happy, _____?
- 2) Nobody is coming, _____?
- 3) You haven't done the work, _____?
- 4) We could always arrive later, _____?
- 5) They might respond, _____?
- 6) Let's go to the shops, _____?
- 7) Be quiet, _____?
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they**?
- 2) Nobody is coming, _____?
- 3) You haven't done the work, _____?
- 4) We could always arrive later, _____?
- 5) They might respond, _____?
- 6) Let's go to the shops, _____?
- 7) Be quiet, _____?
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they**?
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they**?
- 3) You haven't done the work, _____?
- 4) We could always arrive later, _____?
- 5) They might respond, _____?
- 6) Let's go to the shops, _____?
- 7) Be quiet, _____?
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they**?
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they**?
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you**?
- 4) We could always arrive later, _____?
- 5) They might respond, _____?
- 6) Let's go to the shops, _____?
- 7) Be quiet, _____?
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they**?
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they**?
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you**?
- 4) We could always arrive later, **couldn't we**?
- 5) They might respond, _____?
- 6) Let's go to the shops, _____?
- 7) Be quiet, _____?
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they?**
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they?**
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you?**
- 4) We could always arrive later, **couldn't we?**
- 5) They might respond, **mightn't they?**
- 6) Let's go to the shops, _____?
- 7) Be quiet, _____?
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they?**
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they?**
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you?**
- 4) We could always arrive later, **couldn't we?**
- 5) They might respond, **mightn't they?**
- 6) Let's go to the shops, **shall we?**
- 7) Be quiet, _____?
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they?**
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they?**
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you?**
- 4) We could always arrive later, **couldn't we?**
- 5) They might respond, **mightn't they?**
- 6) Let's go to the shops, **shall we?**
- 7) Be quiet, **will you?**
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, _____?
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they?**
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they?**
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you?**
- 4) We could always arrive later, **couldn't we?**
- 5) They might respond, **mightn't they?**
- 6) Let's go to the shops, **shall we?**
- 7) Be quiet, **will you?**
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, **did we?**
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, _____?
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they?**
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they?**
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you?**
- 4) We could always arrive later, **couldn't we?**
- 5) They might respond, **mightn't they?**
- 6) Let's go to the shops, **shall we?**
- 7) Be quiet, **will you?**
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, **did we?**
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, **aren't they?**
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, _____?

- 1) They aren't very happy, **are they?**
- 2) Nobody is coming, **are they?**
- 3) You haven't done the work, **have you?**
- 4) We could always arrive later, **couldn't we?**
- 5) They might respond, **mightn't they?**
- 6) Let's go to the shops, **shall we?**
- 7) Be quiet, **will you?**
- 8) We hardly spoke last time, **did we?**
- 9) Hannah and Flo are coming too, **aren't they?**
- 10) They could have bought me some flowers, **couldn't they?**



Practice 2

Add the correct question tag with the correct intonation.

You are happy



She works hard



She has her hair cut



You must stop shouting



She didn't see me



You were distraught



She has been there



Sam and Kevin saw us



There are some dogs



They could swim



I am so lucky



That's not very nice



Pass me the salt



They had already begun



I would stop the show



They hadn't done much



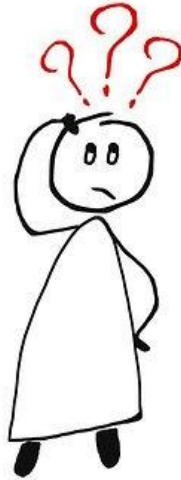
We will sing together



She should sit down



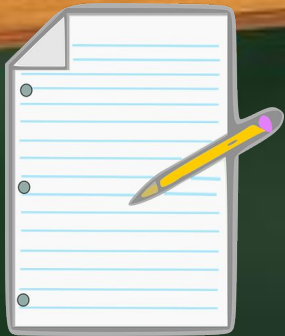
Any questions?



REVIEW



Question Tags



HOMEWORK

COMPLETE THE QUIZ

Link: <https://virtually-fluent.com/quizzes/question-tags-quiz/>