

Question Tags Exercises

Level: B1

Add a short question to check information

A question tag repeats the subject as a pronoun and uses the sentence's auxiliary. A positive statement normally takes a negative tag; a negative statement normally takes a positive tag.

Positive to negative: *She is here, isn't she?* A positive statement takes a negative tag.

Negative to positive: *They aren't ready, are they?* A negative statement takes a positive tag.

Use the auxiliary: *You have finished, haven't you? / He can swim, can't he?* Repeat the auxiliary in the tag.

Without an auxiliary: Use *do/does/did* with a simple present or past verb: *You like tea, don't you? / She left, didn't she?*

Subject pronoun: Replace a name or noun with a pronoun: *Maria works here, doesn't she?* The tag cannot repeat *Maria*.

Exercise 1: Choose the tag

Choose the usual opposite-polarity tag for checking information, not an echo tag. Match the auxiliary and subject.

1. She is your sister, ___?
a) is she b) isn't she c) doesn't she
2. They aren't at home, ___?
a) aren't they b) do they c) are they
3. Ben likes music, ___?
a) isn't he b) doesn't he c) don't he
4. We finished early, ___?
a) didn't we b) don't we c) weren't we
5. She can't drive, ___?
a) can't she b) does she c) can she
6. You have seen this film, ___?
a) haven't you b) don't you c) have you

Exercise 2: Complete the tag

Write the usual opposite-polarity tag for checking information, including the pronoun. Do not use an echo tag or add a question mark.

7. Maria works here, ___? (positive simple present; she)
8. They didn't call, ___? (negative simple past; they)
9. It is cold today, ___? (positive is; it)

10. We can leave now, ___? (positive can; we)
11. She hasn't arrived, ___? (negative present perfect; she)
12. You bought the tickets, ___? (positive simple past; you)

Exercise 3: Fix the tag

Replace only the incorrect tag. Keep the statement and question mark.

13. She is ready, doesn't she?

14. They aren't late, do they?

15. Tom plays chess, don't he?

16. We went home, don't we?

17. She can't swim, is she?

18. Ben has finished, hasn't Ben?

Answer key

Exercise 1: Choose the tag

1. b) isn't she
2. c) are they
3. b) doesn't he
4. a) didn't we
5. c) can she
6. a) haven't you

Exercise 2: Complete the tag

7. doesn't she
8. did they
9. isn't it
10. can't we
11. has she
12. didn't you

Exercise 3: Fix the tag

13. She is ready, isn't she?
14. They aren't late, are they?
15. Tom plays chess, doesn't he?
16. We went home, didn't we?
17. She can't swim, can she?
18. Ben has finished, hasn't he?