

TOPIC WISE ENGLISH



Question Tags

ALL COMPETITIVE EXAMS

LIVE   **5:30 PM**





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QUESTION TAGS





QUESTION TAG

are you? mustn't he?
was she? won't she
do you? hadn't we?
did she? haven't they?
have I? didn't he?
had they? don't they?
will you? wasn't he?
should I? isn't it?

We use question tags at the end of statements to ask for confirmation.

They mean something like: "All right?" or "Do you agree?".

Structure:

- A positive statement + A negative question tag.
Example: You are a technician, aren't you?
- A negative statement + A positive question tag.
Example: You are not a technician, are you?



Question tags are short questions at the end of statements.

They are mainly used in speech when we want to:

**confirm that something is true or not, or
to encourage a reply from the person we are
speaking to.**



Tense

Present Simple └─ To Be
└─ Other Verbs

Present Continuous

Past Simple └─ To Be
└─ Other Verbs

Past Continuous

Present Perfect

Present Perfect Continuous

Past Perfect

Past Perfect Continuous

Future Simple

Future Continuous

Future Perfect

Future Perfect Continuous

Modal Verbs

Examples for positive statement

She is American, isn't she?

They do morning exercise regularly, don't they?

The children are sleeping, aren't they?

You were at home, weren't you?

He cleaned his room, didn't he?

Tim was watching television, wasn't he?

He has written five letters, hasn't he?

They have been travelling since last October, haven't they?

You had had lunch, hadn't you?

He had been running, hadn't he?

She will bring you a cup of tea, won't she?

They will be arriving soon, won't they?

She will have forgotten everything, won't she?

He will have been cooking all day, won't he?

John must stay at home, mustn't he?

NOTE: → Negative auxiliaries and verbs in tags are usually in their contracted form (= n't).

→ For negative statements, the auxiliary and verb in tag are positive.

Example: She is not American, is she?



A positive statement is followed by a negative question tag.

Jack is from Spain, isn't he?

Mary can speak English, can't she?



Formation

If there is an auxiliary verb in the statement, we use it to form the question tag.

I don't need to finish this today, do I?

James is working on that, isn't he?

Your parents have retired, haven't they?

The phone didn't ring, did it?

It was raining that day, wasn't it?

Your mum hadn't met him before, had she?



Exceptions in Forming Question Tags

Statements with Negative Adverbs

The adverbs never, seldom, hardly, rarely, ... have a negative sense. We treat statements with these words like negative statements, so the question tag is normally positive.

Example:

We have never seen that, have we?



We use the verb form are/aren't I when the subject is the first person singular.

Example:

I'm intelligent, aren't I?

Statements begin with Let's

We use shall we after sentences with Let's.

Example:

Let's take the next bus, shall we?

Let's go home, shall we?



With Imperatives

Sometimes question tags are used with imperatives (invitations, orders), but the sentence remains an imperative and does not require a direct answer. We use **won't you** for invitations, and **can you/can't you/will you/would you** for orders.

Example:

Open the window, will you? (order – less polite)

Take a seat, won't you? (invitation – polite)



With There... structure

When we use the there... structure, there is reflected in the tag.

Example:

There's nothing wrong, is there?

There weren't any problems when you talked to Jack, were there?



**Statements with Nobody/No one, Somebody/Someone,
Everybody/Everyone as the subject**

**We use the pronoun they in question tags after statements
with nobody/no one, somebody/someone,
everybody/everyone as the subject.**

Example:

Somebody wanted to borrow Jack's bike, didn't they?



Statements with Nothing/Something/Everything as the subject

When the subject is nothing/something, we use it in the tag question.

Example:

Something happened at Jack's house, didn't it?



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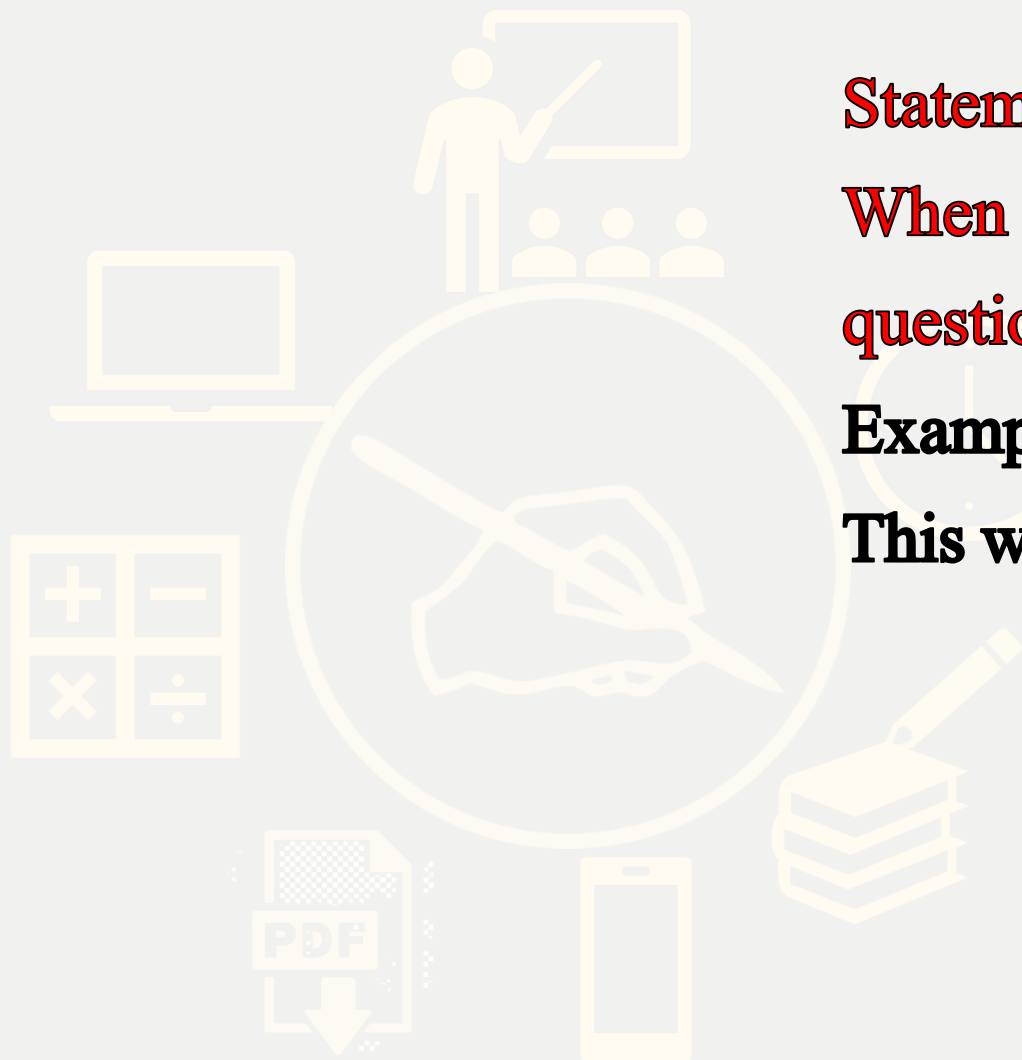
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Statements with This

When the subject is this, we use it in the tag question.

Example:

This will work, won't it?





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QUESTION BASED ON QUESTION TAGS





1. He's still sleeping, _____

- A. is not he?
- B. isn't he?
- C. wasn't he?
- D. None of these

1. isn't he?

0:30



2. You do go to school, _____

- A. do you?**
- B. aren't you?**
- C. don't you?**
- D. None of these**

2. don't you?

0:30



3. Let's go for a walk, _____

- A. shall we?
- B. shan't we?
- C. will we?
- D. None of these

0:30

3. shall we?



4. We won't be late, _____

- A. won't we?**
- B. will we?**
- C. are we?**
- D. None of these**

4. will we?

0:30



5. Nobody called, _____

- A. do they?
- B. didn't they?
- C. did they?
- D. None of these

0:30

5. did they?



6. They will wash the car, _____

- A. will it?
- B. won't they?
- C. wouldn't they?
- D. None of these

6. won't they?

0:30



7. We must lock the doors, _____

- A. mustn't they?**
- B. shouldn't we?**
- C. mustn't we?**
- D. None of these**

7. mustn't we?

0:30



8. I'm right, _____

- A. amn't I?
- B. am not I?
- C. aren't I?
- D. None of these

8. aren't I?

0:30



9. So you bought a car, _____

- A. did you?
- B. haven't you?
- C. weren't you?
- D. None of these

9. did you?

0:30



10. You wouldn't like to invite my Dad,

- 1. did you?**
- 2. would you?**
- 3. won't you?**
- 4. None of these**

0:30

10. would you?



Home Work Answer

The 2008 economic _____ resulted in massive _____.

A. slowdown, lay-downs

B. meltdown, lay-offs

C. recession, lay-overs

D. downpour, lay-ups

E. dropdown, lay-bys



Home Work

If he would had stolen money, he would have done wrong.

A. Had stolen

B. would steal

C. is stoling

D. stole

D. No correction required.



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