

# Tag Questions

It's a tag question,  
isn't it ?

Yes, it is.



Vision 3  
Lesson 1  
Tag Questions

Prepared by:

A. Najafi. S

Jahrom  
Sampad School

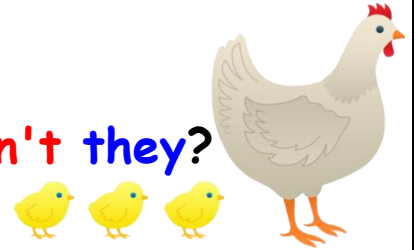


1. Snakes are dangerous animals, aren't they?



2. Sara is watering the carrots now, isn't she?

3. The chicks are following their mom, aren't they?



4. The goat was eating grass on the farm, wasn't it?

5. Your grandparents are walking, aren't they?



6. Ben isn't at school now, is he?

7. Amir wasn't playing football, was he?



8. Reza is a real couch potato, isn't he?

9. The Bensons are shopping today, aren't they?



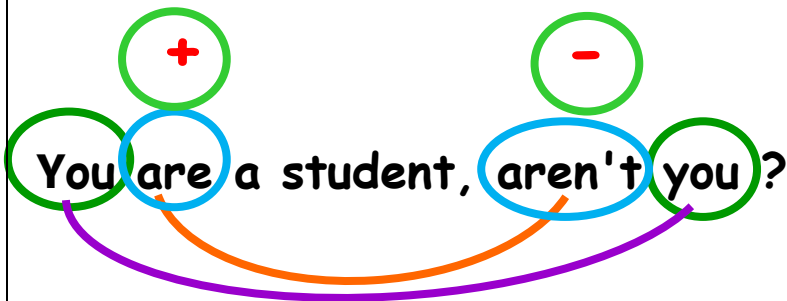
# Tag questions?

A **tag question** (also **Question Tag**) is a short question at the end of a statement.

Question tags are used when asking for **agreement** or **uncertainty**.

A positive statement

A negative question tag



The intonation of a tag question shows the exact meaning of it:

If the intonation of a tag question goes up, it means you are not sure and you want to know the answer.

John doesn't speak Spanish, does he?

uncertainty



If the intonation of a tag question goes down, it means you are checking / confirming information and eliciting agreement.

John doesn't speak Spanish, does he?

agreement



# Notes

1. In a positive statement, the tag question is negative and in a negative statement, the tag question is positive.

e.g. Mohsen **is** intelligent, **isn't** he?

Ms. Taylor **wasn't** here, **was** she ?

2. When the statement has an auxiliary verb, we use it in the tag question. These verbs include: **am, is, are, was, were,** and modals (**will, would, can, could, etc.**) and also **have/has/had** in present & past perfect.

e.g. Amin **can** help you, **can't** he?

People **must** respect hygiene standards, **mustn't** they?

3. In a tag question, a **negative verb** must be the contracted form (short form) of the verb, e.g. **isn't, doesn't, can't, won't, etc.**


We can't use the complete forms, e.g. **is not, does not, cannot, will not, etc.**

e.g. Dad **will** go there, **won't** he?

**Wrong:** X will not he? X

4. The subject in the tag question must **always** be a **subject pronoun**. They are: **I, you, he, she, it, we, they**

e.g. Julia is sick, **isn't she?** Not **X isn't Julia? X**

 We also use **"there"** in a tag question when the statement starts with **"there"**.

e.g. There isn't any milk left, **is there?**

5. We always need a comma before the question tag.

6. Although there are rules for tag questions, there are some exceptions to these rules. Try to learn the exceptions, too. We'll talk about exceptions later.

7. If we don't have any auxiliary in the sentence, we use "do / does / did" depending on the tense.

e.g. Mr. Dana teaches English, **doesn't he?**

Her parents both work, **don't they?**

His wife gave you the message, **didn't she?**

## More Examples

You are happy today, **aren't you?**

Mohsen was playing golf, **wasn't he?**

Our car isn't new, **is it?**

I'm not a skillful swimmer, **am I?**

Their garden is beautiful, **isn't it?**

The teacher was talking, **wasn't he/she?**

Mr. Amini doesn't have a laptop, **does he?**

Our neighbors don't make a noise, **do they?**

There isn't good news about Coronavirus, **is there?**

There aren't any children in the yard, **are there?**

There is a parking lot here, **isn't there?**

There are many new cases of Covid-19, **aren't there?**

Sina **writes** a story every month, **doesn't he?**

The Amiris **paint** the windows every two years, **don't they?**

Sophie **makes** beautiful leather bags, **doesn't she?**

The cleaners **clean** the office rooms every week, **don't they?**

Mr. Amini **takes** little Reza to kindergarten, **doesn't he?**

His wife **cooks** delicious food, **doesn't she?**

We **pay** the bills on time, **don't we?**

Our neighbor **washes** his car every week, **doesn't he?**

Tom **chased** the butterfly an hour ago, **didn't he?**

You **broke** that beautiful cup yesterday, **didn't you?**

Homa **took** the books to the school library, **didn't she?**

Zahra's brother **bought** two DVDs this morning, **didn't he?**

Mohsen **gave** the olives to Amin, **didn't he?**

Your uncle **can** solve the problem for us, **can't he?**

We **must** help our neighbors, **mustn't we?**

The Smiths **could** see all the relatives, **couldn't they?**

The boss **should** respect his employees, **shouldn't he?**

Homa's brothers **will** leave here, **won't they?**

My friends **won't** wait for me, **will they?**

Mom **can't** bake a cake now, **can she?**

Reza's parents **mustn't** let him go there, **must they?**

We **should never** behave impolitely, **should we?**

Jack **must** pay **no** attention to rumors, **must he?**

Judy **could** do **nothing** about the problem, **could she?**

Their aunt **will** buy this gold ring, **won't she?**

Tom **has made** the same mistake many times, **hasn't he?**

The Bensons **have bought** a new car, **haven't they?**

Roya **has** just **watered** the flowers, **hasn't she?**

Mom & Dad **have bought** a gold coin for Grandma, **haven't they?**

Mohammad **has paid** the bills online, **hasn't he?**

Fatemeh **has taken** her sister to the party, **hasn't she?**

The cat **has been fed** by Mehdi, **hasn't it?**

The police **have arrested** the thieves, **haven't they?**

Taha **had taken** the books to the library before, **hadn't he?**

Ahmad's parents **had bought** a car before 1390, **hadn't they?**

The class **had taken** no online exam, **had they?**

He **had lost** all the documents, **hadn't he?**

**BUT:**

We **have** an exam on Monday, **don't we?**

Arash **has** the flu, **doesn't he?**

Mitra **has** no money at the moment, **does she?**



Your niece **has** a collection of old coins, **doesn't she?**

Her nephew **has** a bad cold, **doesn't he?**

Our boss **has** no experience in typing, **does he/she?**

Mina **had** a good time with us, **didn't she?**

Dad **had** nothing to say, **did he?**

The Smiths never **had** a car, **did they?**



Some **irregular forms** of question tags:

1. **I'm** right, **aren't I?**
2. **I'm** the boss here, **aren't I?**
3. **I am** better than you in math, **aren't I?**
4. **Let's** wait for Amir, **shall we?**
5. **Let's** forget all about it, **shall we?**
6. **Open** the window, please, **will you?**
7. **Speak** louder, Ben, **will you?**
8. **Don't look** at me like this, **will you?**
9. **Don't park** your car here, **will you?**

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

Imperative + question tag	Notes
Take a seat, <b>won't you?</b>	<b>polite invitation</b>
Help me, <b>can you?</b>	<b>quite friendly</b>
Help me, <b>can't you?</b>	<b>quite friendly (maybe some irritation !)</b>
Close the door, <b>would you?</b>	<b>quite polite</b>
Do it now, <b>will you?</b>	<b>less polite</b>
Don't forget, <b>will you?</b>	<b>with negative imperatives only "will" is possible</b>

10. We **ought to** respect elders, **shouldn't we?**

11. **Somebody** will help us, **won't they?**

12. **Somebody** should find a way, **shouldn't they?**

13. **Nobody** can solve this problem, **can they?**

14. **No one** is here to listen to you, **are they?**

15. **Everybody** knows the answer, **don't they?**

16. **Nothing** can change my mind, **can it?**

17. **Nothing** is absolutely right, **is it?**

18. **Something** will change this bad situation, won't **it**?
19. Don't worry, Dad. **Everything** is Ok., isn't **it**?
20. **Nothing** should be done about it, should **it**?

 **Note:**

In tag questions, we use "**they**" for "somebody, nobody, no one, everybody, everyone" and "**it**" for "something, everything, nothing".



**GOOD LUCK**

**A.Najafi.S**