English Language Question Tag for Jss2

A question tag is a question that comes at the end of a sentence. In this lesson, we will learn about question tags and go through a series of examples to get a firm hold on this English language grammar concept.

What Is a Question Tag?

**English is pretty complicated, isn't it?** See what just happened there? A question tag was added to the end of that sentence, and it sort of gave you the answer at the same time. Questions tags are funny little add-ons in the English language that allow you to make a statement, and then end with a question. They are important in spoken language because they allow the speaker to provide information to the listener, so they can respond properly. In order to make a proper question tag, a few rules must be followed. In this lesson, we will learn the ins and outs of question tags and get some practice by looking at several examples.

Simply put, a question tag (also known as a tag question) is a clause that turns a statement into a question. A question tag is made up of the statement, a comma, and the question clause. The question tag is usually built by combining an auxiliary verb and a pronoun. Keep in mind an auxiliary verb is either a **'to have'** or **'to be'** verb. In a question tag, the auxiliary verb matches the verb used in the declarative statement. Of course, there are exceptions to this rule.

When creating a question tag, the verb in the statement must be taken into account. For example, if the statement's verb is positive, then the verb in the question tag is negative. Likewise, if the statement's verb is negative, then the verb in the question tag is positive. For example:

* **The weather is nice outside today, isn't it?**
* **The clouds aren't coming back, are they?**

Let's take a look at the varying circumstances in which a question tag can be added to a sentence.

**Question Tags and Auxiliary Verbs**

The most common way to form a question tag is to use a pair of auxiliary verbs. Remember, an auxiliary verb is either a 'to have' or 'to be' verb. In sentences that have a question tag, the verbs should match one another. Let's look at a few examples:

* **She wasn't in the parade, was she?**
* **He hasn't gone to the store yet, has he?**
* **The zoo isn't closed, is it?**
* **Mom and dad weren't in the car, were they?**
* **Sara is at the park, isn't she?**
* **The dog is in the bedroom, isn't it?**

Notice that the question tags that have a negative verb use a contraction. This is a standard convention, but isn't a requirement to form a question tag. You could write it out, as seen in the following example:

**She went to the park, did she not?**

**It sounds a little funny, but is totally acceptable.**

Each student then uses the statements to form question tag questions asking the student who has written the statements.

**For example: You have been married for four years, haven't you? You live in San Francisco, don't you?**

**Question Tag Exercises**

Put the following question tags in to the correct gaps. Each question tag is used only once.

**isn't it?, has he?, were you?, aren't you?, doesn't he?, do you?, is she?, didn't you?, did she?**

She didn't watch the film last night, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It's great to see each other again, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

He comes every Friday, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You're married, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You went to Tom's last weekend, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You don't like tripe, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

She isn't much of a cook, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

He hasn't lived here long, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You weren't invited to the party, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Match The Sentence Halves Sentence Question Tag

They enjoy playing football\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

She isn't thinking of moving\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

He'll go to university\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

She hasn't studied for very long\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jack bought a new car last week\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

They aren't serious\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You live in an apartment\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

She doesn't speak Russian\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

They won't shut up\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

He isn't concentrating\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

They hadn't visited you before\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This music is fantastic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_