



Negative Yes-No Questions

Grammar > Intermediate 6



Exercise 1 – Learning

A **yes-no question** is a question whose answer can only be '**yes**' or '**no**'.

'Is he happy?' 'Yes, he is'/'No, he's not'.

Negative yes-no questions are question forms that begin with a negative helping verb such as **aren't, isn't, can't, don't, didn't and etc.**

We usually use this type of question to check something we believe or expect to be true.

For example, if we believe that Jim is a happy person, we can say:

Isn't he happy?



How to answer a negative yes-no question?

When answering negative yes-no questions, the answer is exactly the same as for positive yes-no questions.

We answer “no” when the answer is negative, and “yes” when the answer is positive.

Ex: Isn't he happy?

- **No, he isn't.**
- **Yes, he is.**

How to form a negative yes-no question?

Turn the negative statement into a negative question.

- **He isn't** happy. → **Isn't he** happy?
- **You aren't** hungry. → **Aren't you** hungry?
- **You don't** like bananas. → **Don't you** like bananas?
- **She didn't** come. → **Didn't she** come?
- **They can't** speak English. → **Can't they** speak English?



Exercise 2 – Multiple Choice

Choose the correct answers to complete the sentences.

1. _____ cooking fun?

- a) Isn't
- b) Aren't

2. I love cooking. _____ you love it too?

- a) Don't
- b) Isn't

3. _____ you cook? I heard you are a great cook.

- a) Didn't
- b) Weren't

4. _____ you cook in a restaurant before?

- a) Didn't
- b) Weren't



5. _____ you going to make pasta? I'm looking forward to it.

- a) Aren't
- b) Isn't

6. _____ you going to make pasta tonight. How come that didn't happen?

- a) Didn't
- b) Weren't

7. I can't understand you. _____ you speak English?

- a) Can't
- b) Aren't

8. _____ you like apples?

- a) Can't
- b) Don't



Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.

Example: He is very busy. → Isn't he very busy?

Content:

1. She moved away.
2. Peter has new friends now.
3. Lisa is sick in bed.
4. He doesn't care about us.
5. David lives abroad.
6. They changed their number.