



Understanding Question Tags

Question tags are short phrases added to the end of a statement to turn it into a question. They allow us to seek confirmation or clarification in a conversational way.

Types of Question Tags

Affirmative Statements

For positive statements, the question tag uses "isn't it?", "don't they?", or "won't you?"

Negative Statements

For negative statements, the question tag tag uses "is it?", "do they?", or "will you?"
you?"

Special Cases

Some verbs have unique question tags like like "shall we?" or "let's, shall we?"

Forming Question Tags

1

Subject

The question tag starts with the subject pronoun (he, she, they, etc.)

2

Verb

The verb in the tag is the opposite of the verb in the statement (isn't/is, won't/will, etc.)

3

Pronoun

The tag ends with a pronoun that matches the subject (he, she, it, she, it, they, etc.)



Using Question Tags in Conversation

Seeking Confirmation

Question tags can be used to double-check information or get agreement.

Softening Statements

They can make direct statements sound more polite and less confrontational.

Expressing Uncertainty

Question tags indicate that the speaker is unsure and open to correction.

Building Rapport

Using question tags can make a conversation feel more conversational and friendly.



Question Tags in Context



**You like this movie, don't you?
you?**

Seeking confirmation



**We'd better get going, shall we?
we?**

Special case tag



It's a beautiful day, isn't it?

Affirmative statement



**You didn't order the salad, did
did you?**

Negative statement