

Grammar Challenge

Question tags

Practice



GRAMMAR CHALLENGE



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH



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BBC Learning English – Grammar Challenge

Grammar Challenge – Question tags

Exercise 1:

Match the beginnings of the sentences to the correct endings.

1.	I was looking forward to that film, but it was a load of rubbish,
2.	He talked and talked about the same topic for hours,
3.	That's my coat,
4.	You don't know the answer,
5.	They haven't been married very long,
6.	You won't be home till after midnight,
7.	Peter doesn't like chocolate,
8.	We hadn't been there very long,
9.	She lives in Paris,
10	You can't swim,
.	

a.	...isn't it?
b.	...have they?
c.	...doesn't she?
d.	...didn't he?
e.	...does he?
f.	...had we?
g.	...do you?
h.	...wasn't it?
i.	...can you?
j.	...will you?

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Exercise 2: Correct / Wrong

Read the sentences and decide whether the question tags are in the correct form.

1. We had a great day out at the amusement park, **didn't we?**
 - a. Correct
 - b. Wrong

2. You don't know if Freddy speaks German, **does he?**
 - a. Correct
 - b. Wrong

3. It's really annoying when people push in front of you in a queue, **don't they?**
 - a. Correct
 - b. Wrong

4. You shouldn't tell other people what to do, **should they?**
 - a. Correct
 - b. Wrong

5. You haven't done much revision for your exams, **have you?**
 - a. Correct
 - b. Wrong

6. You will let me know what they said to him, **won't they?**
 - a. Correct
 - b. Wrong

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Exercise 3:

Read the sentence and choose the one option a-d which best fits the space.

1. I really like action movies, but you can't stand them, ...
 - a. don't I?
 - b. can you?
 - c. can't I?
 - d. do you?

2. If you can't access your account, you have to call the service centre, ...
 - a. can you?
 - b. can't you?
 - c. have you?
 - d. don't you?

3. Foreign travel is very exciting, but it can be quite expensive, ...
 - a. can it?
 - b. can't it?
 - c. isn't it?
 - d. is it?

4. We gave them the money yesterday, but we haven't received a receipt yet, ...
 - a. didn't we?
 - b. didn't they?
 - c. haven't we?
 - d. have we?

5. If you don't like your job, you should look for another one, ...
 - a. shouldn't you?
 - b. should you?
 - c. don't you?
 - d. shouldn't it?

6. You can't afford to buy the shoes I showed you, ...
 - a. can you?
 - b. did you?
 - c. can't I?
 - d. didn't I?

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Answers

Exercise 1:

Match the beginnings of the sentences to the correct endings.

1.	I was looking forward to that film, but it was a load of rubbish,
2.	I hate the food at that restaurant,
3.	That's my coat,
4.	You don't know the answer,
5.	They haven't been married very long,
6.	You won't be home till after midnight,
7.	Peter doesn't like chocolate,
8.	We hadn't been there very long,
9.	She lives in Paris,
10.	You can't swim,

h.	...wasn't it?
d.	...didn't he?
a.	...isn't it?
g.	...do you?
b.	...have they?
j.	...will you?
e.	...does he?
f.	...had we?
c.	...doesn't she?
i.	...can you?

Exercise 2: Correct / Wrong

Read the sentences and decide whether the question tags are in the correct form.

1. We had a great day out at the amusement park, **didn't we?**
a. Correct – Yes – the subject and auxiliary verb are correct.
b. Wrong - No – the subject and auxiliary verb are correct.
2. You don't know if Freddy speaks German, **does he?**
a. Correct – No – the auxiliary verb and the subject are both wrong. The correct question tag is '**do you?**'
b. Wrong - Yes – the auxiliary verb and the subject are both wrong. The correct question tag is 'do you?'
3. It's really annoying when people push in front of you in a queue, **don't they?**
a. Correct – No – the auxiliary verb and the subject are both wrong. The correct question tag is '**isn't it?**'
b. Wrong – Yes – the auxiliary verb and the subject are both wrong. The correct question tag is 'isn't it?'

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4. You shouldn't tell other people what to do, **should they?**
- a. Correct – No - the auxiliary is correct, but the subject is wrong. The correct question tag is 'should you?'
- b. Wrong – Yes - the auxiliary is correct, but the subject is wrong. The correct question tag is 'should you?'**
5. You haven't done much revision for your exams, **have you?**
- a. Correct – Yes – the subject and auxiliary verb are correct.**
- b. Wrong - No – the subject and auxiliary verb are correct.
6. You will let me know what they said to him, **won't they?**
- a. Correct – No - the auxiliary is correct, but the subject is wrong. The correct question tag is 'won't you?'
- b. Wrong – Yes – the auxiliary is correct, but the subject is wrong. The correct question tag is 'won't you?'**

Exercise 3:

Read the sentence and choose the one option a-d which best fits the space.

1. I really like action movies, but you can't stand them,...
- a. don't I? – Wrong – find the main subject and verb which the question is about.
- b. can you? – Correct – the subject is correct, and the auxiliary is correct too.**
- c. can't I? – Wrong – the subject is wrong, and the form of the auxiliary is wrong, too.
- d. do you? – Wrong - find the main subject and verb which the question is about.
2. If you can't access your account, you have to call the service centre,...
- a. can you? – Wrong – the subject is correct but the auxiliary is wrong.
- b. can't it? – Wrong – find the main subject and verb which the question is about.
- c. have you? – Wrong - the subject is correct but the auxiliary is wrong.
- d. don't you? – Correct – the subject is correct, and the auxiliary is correct too.**
3. Foreign travel is very exciting, but it can be quite expensive,...
- a. can it? – Wrong - the subject is correct but the form of the auxiliary is wrong.
- b. can't it? – Correct – the subject is correct, and the auxiliary is correct too.**
- c. isn't he? - Wrong - find the main subject and verb which the question is about.
- d. is it? – Wrong - the subject is correct but the auxiliary is wrong.
4. We gave them the money yesterday, but we haven't received a receipt yet,...
- a. didn't we? – Wrong - the subject is correct but the auxiliary is wrong.
- b. didn't they? – Wrong - the subject and the auxiliary are both wrong.
- c. haven't we? – Wrong - the subject is correct, but the form of the auxiliary is wrong.
- d. have we? – Correct – the subject is correct, and the auxiliary is correct too.**
5. If you don't like your job, you should look for another one,...
- a. shouldn't you? – Correct – the subject is correct, and the auxiliary is correct too.**
- b. should you? – Wrong - the subject is correct, but the form of the auxiliary is wrong.
- c. don't you? – Wrong - the subject is correct, but the auxiliary is wrong.
- d. shouldn't it? – Wrong – the auxiliary is correct, but the subject is wrong.

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6. You can't afford to buy the shoes I showed you,...
- a. **can you? – Correct – the subject is correct, and the auxiliary is correct too.**
 - b. did you? - Wrong - the subject is correct, but the auxiliary is wrong.
 - c. can't I? - Wrong - the subject is wrong, and the form of the auxiliary is wrong.
 - d. didn't I? - the subject and the auxiliary are both wrong. Find the main subject and verb which the question is about.