

Grammar Challenge

Question tags pronunciation
Practice



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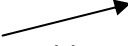
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Grammar Challenge – Question tags pronunciation


Exercise 1: Real questions


Practice saying these sentences and tag questions with rising intonation on the question tag.

1. You couldn't lend me twenty pounds, could you? 

2. You don't know if Peter is here, do you? 

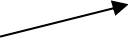
3. They are going to get married, aren't they? 

4. You aren't going out in this terrible weather, are you? 

5. We don't have to go now, do we? 

6. She's from Canada, isn't she? 

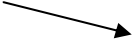
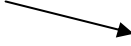
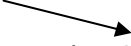
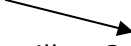
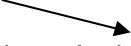
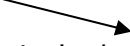
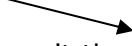
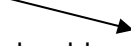
7. You haven't seen Peter today, have you? 

8. I could finish this later, couldn't I? 

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Exercise 2: Checking information or making conversation

Practice saying these sentences and tag questions with falling intonation on the question tag.

1. This is a lovely town, isn't it? 
2. The weather last night was terrible, wasn't it? 
3. They can't sing at all, can they? 
4. We'll never be able to eat all that pizza, will we? 
5. She hates him, doesn't she? 
6. She's a wonderful woman, isn't she? 
7. The shops are open late tonight, aren't they? 
8. We shouldn't leave the party too early, should we? 

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Exercise 3: Question tags in dialogues

Read this dialogue and decide whether the question tags are real questions, or whether their purpose is to check information or keep the conversation going. Mark the intonation with an arrow pointing upwards or downwards. Then practice the dialogue with a partner, if you have one, or you can play both parts yourself! There are no right and wrong answers for this activity, but when you have finished, you can listen to a recording of this dialogue if you want.

The Interview

Chris: Good morning. I'm not too early, am I?

Boss: No, not at all. You've been given a cup of coffee, haven't you?

Chris: Yes, I have, thank you.

Boss: We should be ready for you in a couple of minutes. You wouldn't mind filling in these forms while you're waiting, would you?

Chris: Ok, no problem. I'll give them to the receptionist when I've finished, shall I?

Boss: If you would.

Later...

Boss: ...So the hours are 9.30 to 5.30 Monday to Friday, that's normal, isn't it? And you'll be working in the stats department: the receptionist showed you where that is, didn't she?

Chris: Well yes, she did, but...

Boss: And you haven't had any major illnesses, have you?

Chris: No, but I did want to say that...

Boss: And you've had a look at the terms and conditions, haven't you?

Chris: Yes, but I think there's been some sort of mistake.

Boss: Mistake? You are at Jones and Jones, having an interview for the position of Account Manager, aren't you?

Chris: Well, no, actually, I'm in IT. You do have IT vacancies here, don't you?

Boss: Yes, of course we do. But your name is Chris Jones, isn't it?

Chris: I'm afraid not. My name's Chris Smith.

Boss: Oh my goodness, there must have been some sort of mix-up. You will accept my sincerest apologies, won't you?

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Chris: Of course. No harm done!

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Answers

To listen to model answers for these activities, go to the question tags pronunciation section of:

<http://www.bbclearningenglish.com/>