

BBC Learning English

How to ...

respond to compliments

Quiz



For each question choose the best answer.

1: A: You're looking very smart today, Neil!
B: _____

- a: That's very kind of you to say so
- b: That's very kind of you to say it
- c: It's all very well for you to say that

2: A: Oh Anna, I love your dress!
B: _____

- a: Really? Why?
- b: Really? It was only cheap...
- c: Yes, it's lovely isn't it?

3: A: Well done on getting that contract, Paul.
B: _____

- a: Thanks but it wasn't all my work...
- b: Thanks but it was all my work...
- b: Thanks but it wasn't work...

4: A: You look very swish, Lizzy!
B: _____

- a: Thanks very much! You do two!
- b: Thanks very much! You do to!
- c: Thanks very much! You do too!

5: A: I like your shirt, Mark.
B: _____

- a: What are you doing after?
- b: What are you doing after me?
- c: What are you after?

ANSWERS

1: A: You're looking very smart today, Neil!

B: _____

a: That's very kind of you to say so

Correct – This is a standard way to receive a compliment

b: That's very kind of you to say it

Wrong – How do we refer to something someone has just said?

c: It's all very well for you to say that

Wrong – This has a different meaning. You sound like you are going to disagree with the person

2: A: Oh Anna, I love your dress!

B: _____

a: Really? Why?

Wrong – This is a slightly impolite way to receive a compliment

b: Really? It was only cheap...

Correct – This is one way to show surprise at the compliment

c: Yes, it's lovely isn't it?

Wrong – You can say this, but it's slightly unusual to agree with compliments

3: A: Well done on getting that contract, Paul.

B: _____

a: Thanks but it wasn't all my work...

Correct – You are sharing responsibility for your success

b: Thanks but it was all my work...

Wrong – You need to share responsibility for the success

c: Thanks but it wasn't work...

Wrong – You need to share responsibility for the success

4: A: You look very swish, Lizzy!

B: _____

a: Thanks very much! You do two!

Wrong – Check your spelling here

b: Thanks very much! You do to!

Wrong – Check your spelling here

c: Thanks very much! You do too!

Correct – This is an easy way to return a compliment

5: A: I like your shirt, Mark.

B: _____

a: What are you doing after?

Wrong – This isn't the phrase you need

b: What are you doing after me?

Wrong – This isn't the phrase you need

c: What are you after?

Correct – This is a humorous and common response in the UK