

S.S.L.C. Second Language English-Grammar Section

QUESTION TAGS

‘Question tag’ comes under multiple choice questions. A question tag is a very short question asked to confirm one’s statement. A question tag contains only two words, the first one will be an auxiliary (Auxiliaries: am, is, are, was, were, do, does, did, have, has, had, shall, should, will, would, can, could, may, might, must, ought to, dare, need, used to) and the second one will be a pronoun (I, we, you, he, she, it, they, or there).

Find the auxiliary verb in the given statement. Note that if the statement is positive, the question tag will be negative (short form). If the statement is negative, the tag will be positive.

Use the appropriate pronouns instead of the nouns in the statement.

e.g.: people = they, stars = they, Sheethal = she, Bengaluru = it, minister = he

Special note: The negative of ‘am’ in question tag will be ‘aren’t I?’ Similarly, the negative of ‘will’ in question tag is ‘won’t....?’

If an auxiliary is not found in the statement use the suitable form of ‘do’ and frame a tag. Use the following formula.

go = do go

goes = does go

went = did go

1. Swami was sleeping under a bench,
.....?

Ans: wasn’t he

2. The birds are beautiful,
.....?

Ans: aren’t they

3. English is a beautiful language,?

Ans: isn’t it

4. Parking here is an offence,?

Ans: isn’t it

5. I am the Captain,?

Ans: aren’t I

6. Her parents gave her all she wanted,
.....?

Ans: didn’t they

7. It will rain,?

Ans: won’t it

8. Scientists make a lot of money,?

Ans: don’t they

9. You are trying to fool me,?

Ans: aren’t you

10. There was no watchman to stop you,
.....?

Ans: was there

11. This plant doesn’t produce flowers,
.....?

Ans: does it

12. Good players bring fame to our nation,
.....?

Ans: don’t they

13. Computers cannot replace human
resources,?

Ans: can they

14. The doctor has advised you to drink a
cup of milk every day,?

Ans: hasn’t he

15. Indians celebrate various festivals,
.....?

Ans: don’t they

16. Train fares are lesser than bus fares,
.....?

Ans: aren’t they

17. Maninder could play the guitar well,
.....?

Ans: couldn’t he

18. In the last tests, you failed in two subjects,?

Ans: didn't you

19. Blood donation can save several lives,?

Ans: can't it

20. Smitha was not happy,?

Ans: was she

21. You did not attend the special class,?

Ans: did you

22. Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world,?

Ans: isn't it

23. Sivaji's soldiers were very cunning,?

Ans: weren't they

24. Following the rules make us good civilians,?

Ans: don't they

Imperative sentences (requests, suggestions and orders) demand special question tags.

1. Don't shout in the class,?

Ans: will you

2. Please pass the book,?

Ans: will you

3. Close the door,?

Ans: will you

4. Have a cup of tea,?

Ans: won't you (more polite)

5. Don't forget to bring the diary,?

Ans: won't you

6. Let's move to a brighter place,?

Ans: shall we

7. Let's have some more examples,?

Ans: shall we

8. Don't throw the garbage here,?

Ans: will you