

Making conversation

Verbs have various forms in the present tense, including continuous and perfect. You need to understand these differences when making question tags.

 **New language** Present tenses

Aa Vocabulary Meeting new people

 **New skill** Using question tags

1.1 KEY LANGUAGE PRESENT SIMPLE AND PRESENT CONTINUOUS

PRESENT SIMPLE

The present simple refers to something that happens in general or as part of a daily routine.

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

The present continuous refers to something that is happening right now and will continue for a limited amount of time.

I usually cycle to work, but today I'm walking instead.



1.2 REWRITE THE NOTE, CORRECTING THE HIGHLIGHTED ERRORS

Hi José,

Today **is being** my first day in my new job, so **I leave** the house early. **I'm being** a bit nervous, but **I'm also being** very excited! Anyway, **I already run** late, and **I'm needing** to leave to catch the bus. **Don't be forgetting** to pick up some milk on your way home from work tonight!

See you later!

Hi José,

Today is my first day...

1.3 KEY LANGUAGE PRESENT PERFECT AND PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

PRESENT PERFECT

Use the present perfect to talk about the recent past or general experiences in a lifetime up until now.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Use the present perfect continuous to talk about an action that started in the past, but is continuing until now or has present results.

I've just started a new job. **I've been meeting** new people all week.



1.4 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE PRESENT PERFECT OR THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

I have been waiting (wait) for a bus all morning, but I still haven't seen (not see) one!

- 1 I _____ (read) for hours. My eyes _____ (start) hurting.
- 2 Has the mail _____ (arrive) yet? I _____ (expect) a letter all week.
- 3 My leg _____ (hurt) all day, but I _____ (not see) a doctor yet.
- 4 Have you _____ (see) my keys? I _____ (look) for them for ages.
- 5 Have you _____ (hear) about Carl? He _____ (decide) to move.
- 6 I _____ (finish)! I _____ (write) this essay for ages.
- 7 Have you ever _____ (visit) France? We _____ (look) at brochures.
- 8 I _____ (try) to reach Tao all day, but he _____ (not answer) yet.



1.5 KEY LANGUAGE QUESTION TAGS

If the main clause of the sentence is positive, the question tag is negative, and vice versa. In most cases, the question tag uses the verb "do."

Question tags are small questions added to the end of a statement in informal conversation.

You like meeting new people, don't you?



You don't like meeting new people, do you?



If the main verb is "be," "be" is also used in the question tag.

The negative question form of "I am" is "aren't I."

I am working tomorrow, aren't I?



George isn't working today, is he?

If the main clause of the sentence contains an auxiliary verb or a modal verb, the question tag uses this verb.

You have met the new boss, haven't you?



We shouldn't interrupt him, should we?



1.6 MATCH THE STATEMENTS TO THE CORRECT QUESTION TAGS

Nina's always late for work,

are they?

1 They aren't very welcoming,

does he?

2 He should try harder to be friendly,

has she?

3 She hasn't made many friends here,

isn't she?

4 He doesn't like going to new places,

wouldn't they?

5 They're so happy to be here,

aren't they?

6 They would be here if they could,

shouldn't he?



1.7 KEY LANGUAGE INTONATION WITH QUESTION TAGS

If the intonation goes up at the end of the question tag, it is a question requiring an answer.

You'd like to move offices, wouldn't you?

[I am asking whether or not you would like to move offices.]

If the intonation goes down at the end of a question tag, the speaker is just inviting the listener to agree.

You've already met Evelyn, haven't you?

[I already know you've met Evelyn.]



1.8 LISTEN TO THE SENTENCES AND MARK WHETHER OR NOT AN ANSWER IS REQUIRED

You came here last year, didn't you?

Answer required ☒ Answer not required ☐

1 You moved to the other side of town, didn't you?

Answer required ☐ Answer not required ☐

2 They haven't treated you very well, have they?

Answer required ☐ Answer not required ☐

3 You're staying with your dad tonight, aren't you?

Answer required ☐ Answer not required ☐

4 You bought something for dinner, didn't you?

Answer required ☐ Answer not required ☐

5 You don't have any money for a taxi, do you?

Answer required ☐ Answer not required ☐

6 Maria doesn't seem to like Sue, does she?

Answer required ☐ Answer not required ☐



1.9 ADD QUESTION TAGS TO THE SENTENCES AND SAY THEM WITH BOTH TYPES OF INTONATION

Clara doesn't still work for the same company, does she?

1 People don't have their own office space here, _____?

2 You have been introduced to Mr. Thomas, _____?

3 You'd like to come to dinner with us all tonight, _____?

4 Oscar and Kate aren't here yet, _____?

01 CHECKLIST



Present tenses ☐

Aa Meeting new people ☐



Using question tags ☐