



Mini-lesson 41: Short Answers and Tag Questions

Objective:

Help students practice **short answers** to yes/no questions and form **question tags** correctly based on the verb tense and subject.

Short Answers

Use **auxiliary verbs** (do/does/did, be, will, etc.) for simple yes/no replies.

Examples:

- Do you like coffee? → **Yes, I do.** / **No, I don't.**
- Is she tired? → **Yes, she is.** / **No, she isn't.**
- Did they go out? → **Yes, they did.** / **No, they didn't.**

Question Tags

A question tag turns a statement into a question. If the sentence is **positive**, the tag is **negative**, and vice versa.

Examples:

- You're coming, **aren't you?**
- She doesn't like it, **does she?**
- They were at school, **weren't they?**
- You can swim, **can't you?**
- She'll go to the party, **won't she?**

Use the same auxiliary or modal verb as in the statement.

Notes:

- Use **do/does/did** for simple tenses.
- Use **be** (am/are/is/was/were) for continuous tenses or linking verbs.
- Use **will/won't, can/can't, should/shouldn't**, etc., for modals.



Practice 1: Choose the correct short answer.

1. Do you like sushi?
a) Yes, I like.
b) Yes, I do.
c) Yes, I am.
2. Is she from Spain?
a) No, she doesn't.
b) No, she isn't.
c) No, she wasn't.
3. Did they finish the project?
a) Yes, they do.
b) Yes, they did.
c) Yes, they are.
4. Are we late?
a) No, we aren't.
b) No, we didn't.
c) No, we don't.
5. Will he be here on time?
a) Yes, he is.
b) Yes, he will.
c) Yes, he can.
6. Can you drive?
a) No, I can't.
b) No, I don't.
c) No, I won't.



Practice 2: Complete the sentences with the correct question tag.

1. You're tired, _____?
 2. He doesn't eat meat, _____?
 3. They can swim, _____?
 4. She was at home, _____?
 5. We won't be late, _____?
 6. I'm early, _____?
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Practice 3: Write short answers for the questions below.

1. Do they live nearby? → _____
 2. Is she watching TV? → _____
 3. Did you call him? → _____
 4. Can he help us? → _____
 5. Are you hungry? → _____
 6. Will it rain today? → _____
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Answer Key

Practice 1:

1. b
2. b
3. b
4. a
5. b
6. a

Practice 2:

1. aren't you?
2. does he?
3. can't they?
4. wasn't she?
5. will we?
6. aren't I? (Note: "aren't I" is correct for "I am" in question tags.)

Practice 3 (suggested short answers):

1. Yes, they do. / No, they don't.
2. Yes, she is. / No, she isn't.
3. Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.
4. Yes, he can. / No, he can't.
5. Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.
6. Yes, it will. / No, it won't.