

Advanced Level **You don't like it, do you?**



Nobuo shows up at the display booth.
He finds Hiro moving the sign. He wonders if something is wrong.

Nobuo : Did you have any trouble getting here?

Hiro : No, none at all.

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"you don't like it, do you?"

Tag questions

Tag questions are small questions added to the end of a statement, for example:

That is a dog, isn't it?

The structure of tags

Here are a range of tag questions:

- ..., won't you?
- ..., can't you?
- ..., shouldn't you?
- ..., don't they?
- ..., isn't it?
- ..., won't it?

Advanced Level

You don't like it, do you?

Note the structural elements:

- The first element contains a verb, often 'to be' or 'to do', and is often a repetition of the verb used in the statement.
- The verb is negated, in the abbreviated form.
- The second element is a pronoun.

Using tag questions

Use tag questions to emphasize and encourage the other person to agree. They turn a bold assertion into a question that is difficult to disagree with.

Gaining agreement

Make an assertion and add a tag question:

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A question tag is the "mini-question" at the end.

A tag question is the whole sentence.

How do we answer a tag question?

Often, we just say Yes or No. Sometimes we may repeat the tag and reverse it (... , do they? Yes, they do). Be very careful about answering tag questions. In some languages, an opposite system of answering is used, and non-native English speakers sometimes answer in the wrong way. This can lead to a lot of confusion!