Question Tags

We add question tags to the end of statements to turn them into questions. They are used in spoken language, especially when we want to check something is true, or invite people to agree with us.

- How do we form question tags?
- We add a clause in the form of a question at the end of a sentence. If the main part of the sentence is positive we usually add a negative question tag:

 It's a bit early, isn't it?

If the main part is negative, we usually add a positive question tag: *Mum isn't in trouble, is she?*

• You need to think about what verb to use in the tag. If there is an auxiliary, a modal verb or the verb to be in the main clause, we use that in the question tag: You're in a desert in the middle of Australia, aren't you?

If there is another main verb, we use *do* in the correct form (as we would with questions and negatives):

I think she might be getting a bit old for this sort of travelling, don't you? We told you not to drive in the outback on your own, didn't we?

• The exception

We use 'aren't I' instead of the more logical 'amn't I': I'm next in the queue, aren't I?

