

TAG QUESTIONS

I. USAGE - a question added at the end of a sentence

A. RISING INTONATION - verifying the accuracy of information one already has

B. FALLING INTONATION - seeking agreement

II. FORMATION - an affirmative or negative tag:

- is placed at the end of a sentence preceded by a comma
- is always in the same tense as the original sentence
- contains the same (pronoun) subject as the original statement

A. Affirmative Sentence \Rightarrow negative tag

- Betty's late for class, ISN'T SHE?
- Bill & Jane were in a car accident, WEREN'T THEY?
- Eric hasn't left yet, HAS HE?
- Your mother always cooks dinner, DOESN'T SHE?
- These sun glasses are yours, AREN'T THEY?
- It will rain tomorrow, WON'T IT?

B. Negative Sentence \Rightarrow affirmative tag

- Nothing is wrong, IS IT?
- Nobody called on the telephone, DID THEY?
- You haven't been to Mexico, HAVE YOU?
- I am supposed to be at the meeting, AREN'T I / AM I NOT?