

Yes/No Questions

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Grammar Notes

YES/NO QUESTIONS

A. Introduction

Yes/No (Y/N) questions are very common in English conversations. The answer to these questions is almost always "Yes" or "No." These questions have two patterns: one for the Be verb, and one for other types of verbs.

| Key | | |
|--------|----------------|--|
| Symbol | Part of Speech | Meaning |
| Aux | auxiliary verb | a word that "helps" the main verb (<i>do, be, have, will, can</i> , etc.) |
| S | subject | the person or thing doing the action |
| V | main verb | the action |
| O | object | the person or thing receiving the action |

B. Be Verb

When the main verb of a Y/N question is *Be*, the pattern is VSO.
The Be verb comes first in the question and there is no auxiliary verb.

| Pattern | Question |
|-------------|--|
| V + S (+ O) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Am I late? • Are you okay? • Is he a teacher? • Are we there yet? • Are they from Italy? • Is your dog a pit bull? • Are the children hungry? |



characteristic of the person
condition/ something temporary about a person, animal, thing
are you happy?
is she/he happy?

Grammar Notes cont.

B. Be Verb cont.

How do we answer Y/N questions in English?
We usually use a **short answer** with "Yes" or "No."

1. Positive Short Answers

We never use a contraction in a positive short answer.
For example, "Yes, I am" is correct, but "Yes, I'm" is incorrect.

| Question | Short Answer ✓ | Never Use ✕ |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Are you tired? | Yes, I am . | Yes, I'm. (<i>incorrect!</i>) |
| Is she from Canada? | Yes, she is . | Yes, she's. (<i>incorrect!</i>) |
| Is he a teacher? | Yes, he is . | Yes, he's. (<i>incorrect!</i>) |
| Are we ready? | Yes, we are . | Yes, we're. (<i>incorrect!</i>) |
| Are they students? | Yes, they are . | Yes, they're. (<i>incorrect!</i>) |

2. Negative Short Answers

We often use a contraction in a negative short answer.
There are two correct forms in most cases.

| Question | Short Answer | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Form 1 | Form 2 |
| Are you busy? | No, I'm not . | — |
| Is he a student? | No, he's not . | No, he isn't . |
| Is she tired today? | No, she's not . | No, she isn't . |
| Are we on time? | No, we're not . | No, we aren't . |
| Are they from Japan? | No, they're not . | No, they aren't . |

Grammar Notes cont.

C. All Other Verbs

For every Y/N question with a verb other than Be, the first word of the question is an auxiliary verb such **as do, be, can, or did.**

The short answer uses the same auxiliary as the question.

DOES: he, she, it Does she like junk food?

| Pattern | Question | Positive Answer | Negative Answer |
|--|--|------------------------|--------------------------|
| DO: I, you, they, we, you (pl) Aux + S + V (+ O) | Do you like junk food? | Yes, I do . | No, I don't . |
| | Does the class start at 9:00 am? | Yes, it does . | No, it doesn't . |
| | Are you studying now? | Yes, I am . | No, I'm not . |
| | Is your sister calling you? | Yes, she is . | No, she isn't . |
| | Can you ski ? | Yes, I can . | No, I can't . |
| | Can he play the guitar? | Yes, he can . | No, he can't . |
| | Did she bring her lunch? | Yes, she did . | No, she didn't . |
| | Did your parents drive you here? | Yes, they did . | No, they didn't . |

auxiliary verb= it HELPS
make the question

Did she bring her lunch? Yes/No

What did she bring? She brought a sandwich

Does she have her lunch? Yes/No

What does she have for lunch?

Exercise 1

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the Be verb (*am, are, is*).

Ex. Are you happy?

1. Is he a teacher?

2. AmI late?

3. Areyou nervous?

4. Arewe on time?

5. Isshe from Korea?

6. Arethey your children?

7. Isyour friend a nurse?

8. Arethe students tired?

9. Arethe dogs at the park?







10. Isthe book on the table?

Exercise 2

ASK & ANSWER







A. Questions with Be

Write questions with "Are you..."

| # | Feeling | Question |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| Ex |  | <i>Are you tired?</i> |
| 1 |  | |
| 2 |  | |
| 3 |  | |
| 4 |  | |
| 5 |  | |

B. Short Answers

Write short answers with *yes* or *no* based on the emoji.

| # | Feeling | Question & Answer |
|----|--|--|
| Ex |  | Is she happy? <i>No, she isn't.</i> |
| 1 |  | Is he nervous? _____ |
| 2 |  | Are they angry? _____ |
| 3 |  | Is she scared? _____ |
| 4 |  | Are they happy? _____ |
| 5 |  | Are you nervous? _____ |

Feelings

- happy
- sad
- angry
- scared
- nervous
- tired

Exercise 3

LIKES & DISLIKES

What does Amalia like to do? Look at the chart and write the answers.

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
|  Amalia |  ✓ |  ✓ |  ✗ |  ✓ |  ✗ |
|  ✗ |  ✓ |  ✗ |  ✓ |  ✗ |  ✓ |

Ex. Does Amalia like to ski?

No, she doesn't.

1. Does she like to watch TV?
Yes, she does

2. Does she like to read?
Yes she does

3. Does she like to dance?
No she doesn't

4. Does she like to sing?
Yes she does
Does she like to play the

5. guitar?

No she doesn't

6. Does she like to cook?
No she doesn't

7. Does she like to work out?
Yes she does

8. Does she like to jog?
No she doesn't












9. Does she like to swim?
Yes she does

10. Does she like to snowboard?
Yes she does

Exercise 4

FIND SOMEONE WHO

Write Yes/No questions below using "do" or "can."
Then walk around the class and ask your classmate questions.
When a classmate answers "Yes," write his or her name below.

| # | Activity | Question | Classmate |
|----|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 |  | <i>Do you like to watch TV?</i> | |
| 2 |  | | |
| 3 |  | | |
| 4 |  | | |
| 5 |  | | |
| 6 |  | | |
| 7 |  | | |
| 8 |  | | |
| 9 |  | | |
| 10 |  | | |
| 11 |  | | |

Exercise 5

DIALOGUES

A. Language School

Read the dialogue out loud with a partner.
Underline all the questions in the dialogue.

Christina: Hi, I'm Christina.

Miguel: Hi, I'm Miguel. It's nice to meet you, Christina.

Christina: Nice to meet you too, Miguel. Are you from Mexico?

Miguel: Yes, I am. Are you American?

Christina: No, I'm not. I'm Canadian. Are you a student at this school?

Miguel: Yes, I'm studying English. Are you a student here too?

Christina: Yes, I am. I'm learning Spanish.

Miguel: Do you like Spanish?

Christina: Yes, I do. It's a beautiful language. Do you like English?

Miguel: No, not really. I think English is very difficult.

Christina: Maybe I can help you. Do you want to be study partners?

Miguel: Yes, I do! Can we start today?

Christina: Yes, we can!

Exercise 5 cont.

B. Nice to Meet You

Now write your own dialogue with a partner.

Include questions with *do*, *be*, and *can*.

Imagine you are meeting for the first time.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Exercise 6

BINGO!

Walk around the class asking your classmates these questions. Draw an X through the square when someone answers "Yes." If you get a complete horizontal (—), vertical (|), or diagonal (/ or \) line, yell "Bingo!"

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Do you like pizza? | Can you swim? | Can you count to 20 in English? | Do you study every day? | Are you happy? |
| Do you often eat healthy food? | Did you watch TV last night? | Are you a student? | Do you have any pets? | Did you study last night? |
| Are you wearing black socks? | Did you go to the movies last weekend? | Free Space | Do you like sushi? | Are you tired today? |
| Did you go to school yesterday? | Do you have any brothers or sisters? | Do you like to read? | Can you play the piano? | Can you ski? |
| Are you hungry right now? | Are you wearing any jewellery? | Do you usually wake up at 7:00 am? | Are you married? | Can you cook? |

Exercise 7

QUIZ

Listen to the recording and circle the correct answer.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. a) Yes, he is. b) Yes, he does. c) Yes, he can. | 5. a) No, they're not. b) No, they don't. c) No, they didn't. | 9. a) Yes, they are. b) Yes, they do. c) Yes, they can. |
| 2. a) No, I'm not. b) No, I don't. c) No, I didn't. | 6. a) Yes, I am. b) Yes, I do. c) Yes, I did. | 10. a) Yes, he is. b) Yes, he does. c) Yes, he did. |
| 3. a) Yes, they are. b) Yes, they do. c) Yes, they can. | 7. a) No, I'm not. b) No, I don't. c) No, I can't. | 11. a) Yes, they are. b) Yes, they do. c) Yes, they can. |
| 4. a) No, she isn't. b) No, she doesn't. c) No, she didn't. | 8. a) Yes, it is. b) Yes, it does. c) Yes, it can. | 12. a) No, I'm not. b) No, I don't. c) No, I can't. |

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, students learn how to form Yes/No questions. They practise asking and answering questions through various writing and speaking activities.

LEVEL: Beg – Low Int

TIME: 2 hours

TAGS: questions, question formation, yes/no questions, grammar, grammar exercises, grammar practice worksheets, present, past, present progressive, can

Exercise 1

- | | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. Is | 3. Are | 5. Is | 7. Is | 9. Are |
| 2. Am | 4. Are | 6. Are | 8. Are | 10. Is |

Exercise 2

A. QUESTIONS WITH BE

- Are you happy?
- Are you angry?
- Are you scared?
- Are you sad?
- Are you nervous?

B. SHORT ANSWERS

- No, he isn't.
- Yes, they are.
- Yes, she is.
- No, they aren't.
- Yes, I am.

Exercise 3

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. No, she doesn't. | 6. Yes, she does. |
| 2. Yes, she does. | 7. No, she doesn't. |
| 3. Yes, she does. | 8. Yes, she does. |
| 4. Yes, she does. | 9. Yes, she does. |
| 5. No, she doesn't. | 10. No, she doesn't. |

Exercise 4

Answers will vary.

Exercise 5

A. LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Christina: Hi, I'm Christina.

Miguel: Hi, I'm Miguel. It's nice to meet you, Christina.

Christina: Nice to meet you too, Miguel. Are you from Mexico?

Miguel: Yes, I am. Are you American?

Christina: No, I'm not. I'm Canadian.
Are you a student at this school?

Miguel: Yes, I'm studying English. Are you a student here too?

Christina: Yes, I am. I'm learning Spanish.

Miguel: Do you like Spanish?

Christina: Yes, I do. It's a beautiful language. Do you like English?

Miguel: No, not really. I think English is very difficult.

Christina: Maybe I can help you.
Do you want to be study partners?

Miguel: Yes, I do! Can we start today?

Christina: Yes, we can!

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Exercise 5 cont.

B. NICE TO MEET YOU

Answers will vary.

Exercise 6

Answers will vary.

Exercise 7

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. a | 3. b | 5. a | 7. b | 9. c | 11. a |
| 2. c | 4. a | 6. c | 8. a | 10. b | 12. c |

Transcript:

1. Is he wearing glasses?
2. Did you hear a noise?
3. Do the children like ice cream?
4. Is your roommate messy?
5. Are the students working hard?
6. Did you study last night?
7. Do you have a pet?
8. Is the class over?
9. Can your friends play tennis?
10. Does he want to pass the test?
11. Are they eating dinner now?
12. Can you swim?