

In the know (Writing, grammar)

- Description:** An exercise in writing confirmation questions to fit given question tags.
- Use with or after:** *English Network 2 (New Edition)*, Unit 6, Step 3.
- Skill:** Writing, grammar
- Focus:** Students pass question sheets around in a circle and write confirmation questions about fictitious people.
- Time:** 15 minutes
- Preparation:**
- Print out the second, third and fourth pages of this file.
 - Make enough copies so that there is one sheet (one of the three) for each student.
- Procedure:**
- Rearrange the furniture so that the students can sit in a closed circle. They will need a pen and a hard surface to write on, such as their textbook.
 - Distribute the question sheets (1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, etc.) around the circle.
 - Point out that there are three different sheets about different people, but with similar instructions. You (not one of the students) should read out the instructions, and make sure everyone understands. You may have to explain what a *confirmation question* is. (You just want somebody to *confirm* that what you have said is correct.)
 - Following the instructions on the question sheets, each student writes one sentence to fit the first question tag (such as *He lives in a very large house, doesn't he?*), and then passes the sheet on to the person on his or her right. Continue until all the sentences on all the sheets have been written, or until you feel the activity has gone on long enough.
 - While they are writing, you should circulate and make corrections whenever you notice any mistakes. Also, the students have been instructed to call you over if they think they have discovered a mistake in any of the sentences.
 - If time permits, ask the students to choose and read out the most interesting sentence on the sheet that they happen to be holding at the end of the activity.



You are at a party where everybody is talking about a tennis player named Harry Halverstrom. You've never heard of him, but you don't want anybody to know this, so you start asking confirmation questions about him – so everybody will think that you know all about him!

Write a sentence about him, to fit the question tag, and then pass the paper on to the person on your right.

When you get a new paper, read the questions that are already there (if you think one of them isn't correct, call your teacher!) and then add a new sentence of your own to fit the next question tag.

_____, doesn't he?

_____, is he?

_____, can't he?

_____, will he?

_____, didn't he?

_____, was he?

_____, isn't he?

_____, would he?

_____, wasn't he?





You are at a party where everybody is talking about an actress named Hermine Havarie. You've never heard of her, but you don't want anybody to know this, so you start asking confirmation questions about her – to make everybody think that you know all about her!

Write a sentence about her, to fit the question tag, and then pass the paper on to the person on your right.

When you get a new paper, read the questions that are already there (if you think one of them isn't correct, call your teacher!) and then add a new sentence of your own to fit the next question tag.

_____, does she?

_____, hasn't she?

_____, was she?

_____, wouldn't she?

_____, did she?

_____, won't she?

_____, can she?

_____, doesn't she?

_____, didn't she?





You are at a party where everybody is talking about a swing band called The Hemerions. You've never heard of them, but you don't want anybody to know this, so you start asking confirmation questions about them – to make everybody think that you know all about them!

Write a sentence about them, to fit the question tag, and then pass the paper on to the person on your right.

When you get a new paper, read the questions that are already there (if you think one of them isn't correct, call your teacher!) and then add a new sentence of your own to fit the next question tag.

_____ , don't they?

_____ , would they?

_____ , can't they?

_____ , did they?

_____ , are they?

_____ , weren't they?

_____ , can they?

_____ , aren't they?

_____ , will they?