Questions 1: yes/no questions

A  Yes/no questions

- The table below is a summary. (Full forms are given in earlier units.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Present simple</th>
<th>Present continuous</th>
<th>Past simple</th>
<th>Past continuous</th>
<th>Present perfect</th>
<th>Present perfect continuous</th>
<th>Past perfect</th>
<th>Modals: can/could/will</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you live in Prague?</td>
<td>Do you live in Prague?</td>
<td>Are you coming with us?</td>
<td>Are you coming with us?</td>
<td>Did you go to the meeting?</td>
<td>Did you go to the meeting?</td>
<td>Were you waiting long?</td>
<td>Were you waiting long?</td>
<td>Have you ever eaten sushi?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Notice that yes/no questions are formed with an auxiliary verb + subject + main verb. The auxiliary can be do, be, have or a modal verb like can, will, etc.

- Notice that to make a question we take the affirmative form and then invert the subject and the auxiliary.
  
  He is working → Is he working?
  She has worked → Has she worked?
  He was working → Was he working?
  She has been working → Has she been working?
  He had worked → Had he worked?
  She can work → Can she work?

- The present simple and past simple do not have an auxiliary in the affirmative form. So to keep the pattern we use do and did.

  She works → Does she work? (NOT Works she?)
  He worked → Did he work? (NOT Worked he?)

B  Short answers

- To make a short answer we repeat the auxiliary verb, not the main verb.

  A: Do you speak French?  
  B: Yes, I do./No, I don’t. (NOT Yes, I speak.)

  A: Are you staying at the Ritz?  
  B: Yes, I am./No, I’m not. (NOT Yes, I staying.)

  A: Did you see Michel?  
  B: Yes, I did./No, I didn’t. (NOT Yes, I saw.)

  A: Were you enjoying yourself?  
  B: Yes, I was./No, I wasn’t.

  A: Have you read this report?  
  B: Yes, I have./No, I haven’t.

  A: Have you been waiting long?  
  B: Yes, I have./No, I haven’t.

  A: Had you met him before?  
  B: Yes, I had./No, I hadn’t.

  A: Can you be here at 7.00?  
  B: Yes, I can./No, I can’t.

  A: Will you be late?  
  B: Yes, I will./No, I won’t.
15 QUESTIONS 1: YES/NO QUESTIONS

Exercises

15.1 Change each affirmative sentence into a question.

1 Bill thinks it's a good idea. ____________
2 Sonia is arriving on Monday. ____________
3 He made a copy of the Excel file. ____________
4 They've offered her the job. ____________
5 She'll be at the meeting tomorrow. ____________

15.2 Read the replies, then complete the questions about the operating system Linux.

1 A: ____________ B: IBM? No, I was reading about Linux.
2 A: ____________ B: Linux? No, most servers use Windows.
3 A: ____________ B: Falling? No, the popularity of Linux is growing.
5 A: ____________ B: On our computers? No, we haven’t installed it.
6 A: ____________ B: A lot of money? No, the inventor hasn’t been making a lot. The software is free!

15.3 Write a short reply for each question, beginning as shown.

1 Did you speak to Kate? Yes, ____________
2 Have you been to Brazil? No, ____________
3 Do you play golf? Yes, ____________
4 Does Bill play golf? No, ____________
5 Did you have a good trip? Yes, ____________
6 Can you speak German? No, ____________
7 Are you coming with us? Yes, ____________
8 Is Maria coming with us? No, ____________

15.4 Complete the dialogue with these words: are, do, does, did, has, have, is.

MIKE: (1) ______ you go to the training day they told us about at the last meeting?
SUE: (2) ______ you talking about the computer training?
MIKE: No, not the computer training, I meant the sales training.
SUE: Oh yes, I went to that. It was quite good. (3) ______ you ever been on that course?
MIKE: No, I haven’t.
SUE: Well I found it very useful. It helps you to think about the type of questions we ask our clients during a sales conversation.
MIKE: When you go on these courses (4) ______ the company pay or (5) ______ you pay yourself? I know that good training isn’t cheap.
SUE: Oh, the company pays – they can afford it. It doesn’t cost us anything.
MIKE: And (6) ______ it helped you in your day-to-day work? Be honest now.
SUE: Yes, I think it has.
MIKE: OK. I’m interested. (7) ______ the course running again in the near future?