



Tag Questions: Tag Questions with Modal Verbs

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. You can swim, ___?
a) can you
b) can't you
c) don't you
d) couldn't you
2. He couldn't hear us, ___?
a) can he
b) couldn't he
c) did he
d) could he
3. We should leave early, ___?
a) don't we
b) should we
c) shouldn't we
d) won't we
4. They wouldn't agree to that, ___?
a) wouldn't they
b) will they
c) did they
d) would they
5. She must finish the report by Friday, ___?
a) doesn't she
b) mustn't she
c) must she
d) isn't she
6. You can't park here, ___?
a) do you
b) can't you
c) can you
d) could you
7. Tom might come to the party, ___?
a) mightn't he
b) might he
c) won't he
d) doesn't he
8. We could try the new restaurant, ___?
a) could we
b) can't we
c) shouldn't we
d) couldn't we
9. She shouldn't eat so much sugar, ___?
a) should she
b) does she
c) shouldn't she
d) would she
10. He would like a cup of tea, ___?
a) wouldn't he
b) doesn't he
c) would he
d) won't he
11. You must wear a seatbelt, ___?
a) must you
b) don't you
c) mustn't you
d) shouldn't you

12. They can speak three languages, ___?
a) can they
b) can't they
c) don't they
d) couldn't they
13. She couldn't find her keys, ___?
a) did she
b) couldn't she
c) can she
d) could she
14. We would rather stay home, ___?
a) don't we
b) would we
c) shouldn't we
d) wouldn't we
15. You should apologise, ___?
a) shouldn't you
b) should you
c) don't you
d) won't you
16. He is very tall, ___?
a) wasn't he
b) isn't he
c) doesn't he
d) is he
17. The children must clean their rooms before dinner, ___?
a) don't they
b) aren't they
c) mustn't they
d) must they
18. You could see the mountains from there, ___?
a) can't you
b) didn't you
c) couldn't you
d) could you
19. She didn't pass the exam, ___?
a) did she
b) has she
c) didn't she
d) could she
20. We might need an umbrella, ___?
a) shouldn't we
b) mightn't we
c) won't we
d) might we



Answers

1. b) can't you
2. d) could he
3. c) shouldn't we
4. d) would they
5. b) mustn't she
6. c) can you
7. a) mightn't he
8. d) couldn't we
9. a) should she
10. a) wouldn't he
11. c) mustn't you
12. b) can't they
13. d) could she
14. d) wouldn't we
15. a) shouldn't you
16. b) isn't he
17. c) mustn't they
18. c) couldn't you
19. a) did she
20. b) mightn't we



Explanations

1. “can't you” (b)

'Can' is a positive modal. Positive → negative tag: 'can't you'. Modal verbs keep their own form in the tag.

2. “could he” (d)

'Couldn't' is negative. Negative → positive tag: 'could he'. Use the same modal in the tag.

3. “shouldn't we” (c)

'Should' is positive. Positive → negative tag: 'shouldn't we'.

4. “would they” (d)

'Wouldn't' is negative. Negative → positive tag: 'would they'.

5. “mustn't she” (b)

'Must finish' expresses obligation (positive). Positive → negative tag: 'mustn't she'. When 'must' expresses obligation or necessity, the tag uses 'mustn't'.

6. “can you” (c)

'Can't' is negative. Negative → positive tag: 'can you'.

7. “mightn't he” (a)

'Might' is positive. Positive → negative tag: 'mightn't he'. Although 'mightn't' is uncommon in everyday speech, it is the grammatically correct tag for 'might'.

8. “couldn't we” (d)

'Could' is positive. Positive → negative tag: 'couldn't we'.

9. “should she” (a)

'Shouldn't' is negative. Negative → positive tag: 'should she'.

10. “wouldn't he” (a)

'Would like' uses 'would' (positive). Positive → negative tag: 'wouldn't he'.

11. “mustn't you” (c)

'Must' is positive (expressing obligation). Positive → negative tag: 'mustn't you'.

12. “can't they” (b)

'Can speak' is positive. Positive → negative tag: 'can't they'.

13. “could she” (d)

'Couldn't find' is negative. Negative → positive tag: 'could she'.

14. “wouldn't we” (d)

'Would rather' uses 'would' (positive). Positive → negative tag: 'wouldn't we'.

15. “shouldn't you” (a)

'Should' is positive. Positive → negative tag: 'shouldn't you'.

16. “isn't he” (b)

This statement uses 'is', not a modal verb. Positive → negative tag: 'isn't he'. Not every sentence contains a modal — check the auxiliary carefully.

17. “mustn't they” (c)

'Must clean' expresses obligation (positive). Positive → negative tag: 'mustn't they'. When 'must' expresses obligation, the tag uses 'mustn't'.

18. “couldn't you” (c)

'Could see' is positive. Positive → negative tag: 'couldn't you'.

19. “did she” (a)

This statement uses 'didn't', not a modal. Negative → positive tag: 'did she'. This is a contrast question — 'did' (not a modal) requires a 'did' tag.

20. “mightn't we” (b)

'Might' is positive. Positive → negative tag: 'mightn't we'. While 'mightn't' is rare in American English, it is grammatically correct and used in British English.