

**LESSON 1** **Make small talk**

**CONVERSATION MODEL**

**A** Read and listen to two people making and making small talk.

A: Good morning. Beautiful day, isn't it?  
 B: It really is. By the way, I'm Kazuko Toshima.  
 A: I'd like to meet you.  
 B: Nice to meet you, too.  
 A: Do you mind if I call you Kazuko?  
 B: Absolutely not. Please do.  
 A: And please call me Jane.

**B** **With RHYTHM AND INTONATION** Listen again and repeat. Then practice the Conversation Model with a partner.

**GRAMMAR** Tag questions: Use and form

Use tag questions to confirm information you already think is true or to encourage someone to make small talk with you.

It's a nice day, isn't it?

When the statement is affirmative, the tag is negative. Use the same verb to form the tag question. If the question starts with a main verb, add a negative prefix.

She speaks English, doesn't she?  
 They're here, aren't they?  
 They'll be here later, won't they?  
 She's from Japan, isn't she?  
 There isn't any sugar.  
 You were here yesterday, weren't you?  
 They eat Japanese food, don't they?  
 It's a great day, isn't it?  
 Are we going to have a test?  
 They can hear me, can't they?

**A** **FIND THE GRAMMAR** Find and underline a tag question in the Photo Story on page 3.

**B** **GRAMMAR ACTIVATOR** Complete each statement with the correct tag question.

- 1 It is your manager, ..... ?
- 2 I turned off the projector, ..... ?
- 3 Tim is going to present next, ..... ?
- 4 She won't be at the meeting before 2:00, ..... ?
- 5 We haven't forgotten anything, ..... ?
- 6 It was a great day, ..... ?

**C** **PRONUNCIATION** Intonation of tag questions

**A** Rising intonation usually indicates that the speaker is confirming the correctness of information. Read and listen. Then listen again and repeat.

1 People use first names here, don't they?  
 2 That meeting will go great, isn't it?  
 3 It's a beautiful day for a walk, isn't it?

**C** **PAIR WORK** Take turns reading the examples of tag questions in the Grammar chart on page 4. Read each with both rising and falling intonation. Listen to tracks 1.06 and 1.07 to check your intonation.

**D** **NOW YOU CAN** Make small talk

**A** **CONVERSATION ACTIVATOR** With a partner, personalize the Conversation Model to greet a classmate. Make small talk. Ask each other about what you would like to be addressed. Then change partners.

A: Good ..... , isn't it?  
 B: It really is. By the way, I'm .....  
 A: I'm .....  
**B** **NOTE STOP**

\* Getting making small talk.  
 \* Get to know your new classmate.  
 \* Ask some questions, etc. Travel, etc.

**B** **EXTENSION** Write your name and a few facts about yourself on a sheet of paper and put it on a table. Choose another classmate's paper, read it quickly, and put it back on the table. Then read that person and confirm the information you read, using tag questions.

Maria Carbone  
 I grew up here, but my parents are from Italy. I started studying English when I was in primary school.

**UNIT 1**