

# N'EST-CE PAS ?

## LESSON FOCUS

---

### OBJECTIFS DE LA LEÇON

1. to learn how to use the question tag: **n'est-ce pas**

---

### NIVEAU

**A2** - [niveau usuel](#) (elementary)

---

### INTRODUCTION

What is a question tag?

It is a word or an expression added at the end of a statement to turn it into a question.

Question tags are used mostly in conversation, to encourage a reply or to confirm that something is true or false.

So in English, we would say:

He is here, *isn't he?*

I did my homework, *didn't I?*

We have done our homework, *haven't we?*

If, in English, the question tag changes according to the verb of the statement, this is not the case in French.

---

### UTILISATION DE "N'EST-CE PAS ?"

The question tag **n'est-ce pas ?** which, translated literally, means "is it not", is used at the end of a statement to turn it into a question, usually answered by yes.

**n'est-ce pas** does not change according to the verb of the main statement.

**non ?** is a more informal question tag.

---

## EXEMPLES

- C'est un beau poème, **n'est-ce pas ?** (formal)

- C'est un beau poème, **non ?** (informal)

It is a beautiful poem, isn't it?

- Vous accompagnerez les enfants à l'école demain, **n'est-ce pas ?**

You will take the children to school tomorrow, won't you?

- Natasha et Louis sont venus le mois dernier, **n'est-ce pas ?**

Natasha and Louis came last month, didn't they?

- J'ai mangé des pommes au déjeuner, **n'est-ce pas ?**

I have eaten apples for lunch, haven't I?

NOTE: as you can see in these examples, the question tag remains unchanged, whether the verb of the main statement is in the future or the past tense.