

ECHO QUESTIONS

Grammar, listening reactions and speaking practice | B1–B2

Name:

Date:

Class:

Score:

/ 74

Learning goals

- Form echo questions with auxiliary and modal verbs.
- Use do, does and did correctly.
- Change pronouns naturally.
- Use negative, wh- and one-word echo questions.
- React with suitable interest, surprise, doubt or clarification.

Quick reference

Original statement	Echo question	Rule	Purpose
She is leaving.	Is she?	Repeat the auxiliary.	Interest / surprise
He works here.	Does he?	Use does in the present simple.	Reaction
They went home.	Did they?	Use did in the past simple.	Reaction
I cannot swim.	Can't you?	Keep the negative form.	Surprise
She paid £800.	She paid how much?	Echo the surprising information.	Clarification / shock

Exercise 1: Match the reactions

Match statements 1–8 with echo questions a–h. Write the correct letter beside each statement.

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Lucy can speak Korean. ____ | a. Was it? |
| 2. We saw Ben at the airport. ____ | b. Are you? |
| 3. I am starting a new course. ____ | c. Will they? |
| 4. Daniel has sold his flat. ____ | d. Can she? |
| 5. My parents do not use social media. ____ | e. Did you? |
| 6. The train was two hours late. ____ | f. Does she? |
| 7. Sophie works with my brother. ____ | g. Don't they? |
| 8. They will announce the results tomorrow. ____ | h. Has he? |

Exercise 2: Auxiliary and modal verbs

Complete each dialogue with the correct echo question. Use the auxiliary or modal verb from the statement.

1. **A:** My cousin is studying medicine.
B: _____? That must be demanding.
2. **A:** We are staying with friends in Bath.
B: _____? How lovely.
3. **A:** Oliver was joking.
B: _____? He sounded serious.
4. **A:** The children were waiting outside.
B: _____? I did not see them.
5. **A:** I have finished the report.
B: _____? That was quick.
6. **A:** Maya has met the new manager.
B: _____? What did she think of him?
7. **A:** They had already left by six.
B: _____? I thought they stayed later.
8. **A:** I can play the cello.
B: _____? How long have you played?
9. **A:** Ella might move to Canada.
B: _____? That is a big decision.
10. **A:** We will be working from home tomorrow.
B: _____? So will we.

Exercise 3: Do, does or did?

Complete each response with Do, Does or Did and the correct pronoun.

1. **A:** I read before bed every night.
B: _____? What are you reading now?
2. **A:** Leo lives near the university.
B: _____? That is convenient.
3. **A:** My neighbours grow their own vegetables.
B: _____? I would love to do that.
4. **A:** We watched the final last night.
B: _____? Was it exciting?
5. **A:** Anna teaches yoga at weekends.
B: _____? I did not know that.
6. **A:** The shop closed early yesterday.
B: _____? That explains why it was dark.
7. **A:** I take the bus to work.
B: _____? How long does it take?
8. **A:** The twins look exactly alike.
B: _____? I have never met them.
9. **A:** Ben called me after the meeting.
B: _____? What did he want?

10. A: My brother makes excellent bread.

B: _____? He should open a bakery.

Exercise 4: Change the pronoun

Write a natural echo question. Remember that I and we usually become you in the listener's response.

1. I am feeling much better today.

2. We have booked a cottage in Wales.

3. My daughter can drive now.

4. Tom and I work in the same office.

5. The dog opened the kitchen door.

6. My parents are coming for the weekend.

7. I left my umbrella on the train.

8. Ms Taylor has written a new book.

Exercise 5: Negative echo questions

Complete the responses. Keep the negative meaning of the original statement.

1. A: I do not drink tea.

B: _____? I thought everyone in Britain did!

2. A: Rosa does not eat chocolate.

B: _____? That takes willpower.

3. A: They did not enjoy the concert.

B: _____? What was wrong with it?

4. A: I am not going out tonight.

B: _____? Are you tired?

5. A: The office is not open on Fridays.

B: _____? I did not know that.

6. A: We have not received the email.

B: _____? I sent it this morning.

7. A: Alex cannot swim.

B: _____? That surprises me.

8. A: The children were not frightened.

B: _____? They were very brave.

Exercise 6: Wh- echo questions

Use the word in brackets to form an informal echo question showing surprise or asking for clarification.

1. A: I met Professor Green on the train.

B: You met _____? (who)

2. A: They are moving to Alaska.

B: They are moving _____? (where)

3. A: The meeting begins at 6.30 a.m.

B: It begins _____? (when)

4. A: She paid £1,200 for the bag.

B: She paid _____? (how much)

5. A: Daniel deleted the whole folder.

B: He did _____? (what)

6. A: I invited forty people to dinner.

B: You invited _____ people? (how many)

7. A: The journey took nineteen hours.

B: It took _____? (how long)

8. A: We are travelling by helicopter.

B: You are travelling _____? (how)

Exercise 7: Correct the mistakes

Each echo question contains one mistake. Rewrite it correctly.

1. A: She likes classical music. **B:** Likes she?

Correct form: _____

2. A: They went to Madrid. **B:** Went they?

Correct form: _____

3. A: I am exhausted. **B:** Am I?

Correct form: _____

4. A: Paul has finished. **B:** Does he?

Correct form: _____

5. A: We cannot stay long. **B:** Can you?

Correct form: _____

6. A: Emma works here. **B:** Do she?

Correct form: _____

7. A: The boys were asleep. **B:** Was they?

Correct form: _____

8. A: I saw the Queen. **B:** Who you saw?

Correct form: _____

Exercise 8: What does the speaker mean?

Choose the most likely purpose of the echo question: a) interest, b) surprise, c) doubt, d) clarification, or e) annoyance.

1. A: I have started pottery classes. **B:** Have you? What are they like? ____

2. A: He says he can learn a language in a week. **B:** Can he? ____

3. A: We paid £3,000 for the holiday. **B:** £3,000? ____

4. A: I spoke to Dr Zoric. **B:** You spoke to who? ____

5. A: I have lost the tickets again. **B:** You have done what? ____

6. A: My sister is getting married. **B:** Is she? That is wonderful! ____

Exercise 9: Build a natural conversation

Complete B's reply with an echo question and a suitable follow-up comment or question. More than one answer is possible.

1. A: I am taking my driving test tomorrow.

B: _____

2. A: Carla has been offered a job in Singapore.

B: _____

3. A: We did not sleep at all last night.

B: _____

4. A: My grandfather still cycles twenty kilometres every morning.

B: _____

5. A: I bought this coat for £5.

B: _____

6. A: Theo can speak six languages.

B: _____

7. A: They are moving house on Christmas Eve.

B: _____

8. A: I met our old head teacher in a nightclub.

B: _____

Exercise 10: Speaking challenge

Work with a partner. Student A reads a statement. Student B responds with an echo question and one natural follow-up. Then change roles.

Student A	Student B
• I have never travelled by plane.	• I do not own a mobile phone.
• My neighbour keeps a snake.	• My brother is moving to New Zealand.
• I can solve a Rubik's Cube in one minute.	• I paid £1 for this book.
• We are having breakfast at 5 a.m. tomorrow.	• Our teacher sings in a rock band.
• My cousin met a famous actor yesterday.	• I once slept in an airport for two nights.

Self-assessment

- ☐ I can form echo questions with auxiliaries and modals.
- ☐ I can use do, does and did.
- ☐ I can change pronouns correctly.
- ☐ I can use echo questions naturally in conversation.

ANSWER KEY

Suggested answers

Exercise 1: Match the reactions

1 d 2 e 3 b 4 h 5 g 6 a 7 f 8 c

Exercise 2: Auxiliary and modal verbs

1. Is she?
2. Are you?
3. Was he?
4. Were they?
5. Have you?
6. Has she?
7. Had they?
8. Can you?
9. Might she?
10. Will you?

Exercise 3: Do, does or did?

1. Do you?
2. Does he?
3. Do they?
4. Did you?
5. Does she?
6. Did it?
7. Do you?
8. Do they?
9. Did he?
10. Does he?

Exercise 4: Change the pronoun

1. Are you?
2. Have you?
3. Can she?
4. Do you?
5. Did it?
6. Are they?
7. Did you?
8. Has she?

Exercise 5: Negative echo questions

1. Don't you?
2. Doesn't she?
3. Didn't they?
4. Aren't you?
5. Isn't it?
6. Haven't you?

7. Can't he?
8. Weren't they?

Exercise 6: Wh- echo questions

1. who
2. where
3. when
4. how much
5. what
6. how many
7. how long
8. how

Exercise 7: Correct the mistakes

1. Does she?
2. Did they?
3. Are you?
4. Has he?
5. Can't you?
6. Does she?
7. Were they?
8. You saw who?

Exercise 8: What does the speaker mean?

1. a) interest
2. c) doubt
3. b) surprise
4. d) clarification
5. e) annoyance
6. b) surprise

Exercise 9: Build a natural conversation

Suggested answers:

1. Are you? Good luck!
2. Has she? Will she accept it?
3. Didn't you? What happened?
4. Does he? That is impressive!
5. Did you? What a bargain!
6. Can he? Which languages does he speak?
7. Are they? That sounds stressful.
8. You met who? What was he doing there?