

QUESTION TAGS - IMPERATIVES CLICK !!!



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The 'standard tag' of the imperative is '**Will you**', but we can use '**Won't you**' too. There is perhaps a slight suggestion that you might be expecting the answer to be no, if you use the '**Won't you**' question tag.

By adding the tag to an imperative, we are softening the instruction and turning it into a request. Without it, it would sound very much like a command, so the tag has a similar effect to the addition of please.

Open the window, **will you?**

Take a seat, **will you?**

Do it now, **will you?**

Open the window, **won't you?**

Take a seat, **won't you?**

Do it now, **won't you?**

We can also use ...**would you?** , ...**could you?** , ..**can you?** , ...**can't you?**

Politeness and formality depend on the choice of question tag and the tone of your voice, although '**can't you**' can come across as quite impatient and annoyed.

Close the door, **would you?**

Just wait a minute, **would you?**

Open the door, **could you?**

Give me a hand, **could you?**

Shut up, **can't you?**

Close the door, **can't you?**

Note that with negative imperatives only will is possible

Don't forget to post the letter, **will you?**

Don't stay there long , **will you?**

If we really want to sound polite, we can move the tag to the front:

“**Will you** give me a hand?” Instead of “Give me a hand, **will you?**”