

Short answers

The following is the most usual form of short answers to questions beginning with an auxiliary verb:

Yes + pronoun + auxiliary

No + pronoun + auxiliary + n't (not)

Are you going to school? Yes, I am. / No, I am not.

Can you speak English? Yes, I can. / No, I can't.

Did she come? Yes, she did. / No, she didn't.

Is your son married? Yes, he is. / No, he isn't.

Does John work hard? Yes, he does. / No, he doesn't.

Is Peter your friend? Yes, he is. / No, he isn't.

Agreements and disagreements with statements

Agreements with affirmative statements are made with the structure 'Yes + pronoun + auxiliary'.

She is a nice girl. Yes, she is.

Joe has already come. Yes, he has.

He can speak English very well. Yes, he can.

Agreements with negative statements are made with the structure 'No + pronoun + auxiliary + n't (not)'.

The apples aren't good. No, they aren't.

She doesn't like fish. No, she doesn't.

They didn't play well. No, they didn't.

Disagreements with affirmative statements are made with the structure 'No + pronoun + auxiliary + n't (not)'. But is used in disagreements with a question.

He is mad. No, he isn't.

You are joking. No, I am not.

Why did you beat him? But I didn't.

Short answers

Disagreements with negative statements are made with the structure 'Yes + pronoun + auxiliary'.

You can't do it. Yes, I can.

He won't come again. Yes, he will.

I didn't break it. Yes, you did.