

Discourse Strategies

(Unit 10, page 119)

Showing interest and surprise with short-form questions and statements

A. Use these short “tag”-like questions and statements to show interest and encourage further discussion. Practice saying each.

To show interest	To show surprise	To show strong surprise
use short-form questions with rising intonation	use emphatic questions with rising intonation	use negative statements with falling intonation
IS it? DID you? WERE they? WOULD he?	They DID? It HAD? They COULDN't?	You HADn't! It DID'nt! She WASn't!

B. **Pair Work.** Take turns reading the prompts below and using short form questions and statements to show interest and surprise.

Student A begins

A: I was out late last night and the streets were deserted.
B: (Show interest.)
A: Yeah, it was strange!

A: My brother would always go skiing.
B: (Show interest.)
A: Yes, there was a ski resort nearby.

A: The rest of the group couldn't hear my shouts!
B: (Show surprise.)
A: No! I didn't know what to do!

A: And the bungee cord had started to tear!
B: (Show surprise.)
A: Yes, it was terrifying!

A: And I had forgotten to tell anyone where I was going.
B: (Show strong surprise.)
A: Yeah, it was really dumb!

Student B begins

B: I went snorkeling in the Gulf of Mexico.
A: (Show interest.)
B: Yeah, it was great—beautiful fish.

B: It's a popular place for surfers in Hawaii.
A: (Show interest.)
B: Yeah, the waves can be very exciting.

B: And the crabs started crawling over my sleeping bag.
A: (Show surprise.)
B: Yeah, it was scary.

B: She was falling off the edge of the cliff!
A: (Show strong surprise.)
B: Yes, she was!

B: And the shark turned and swam right towards me—fast!
A: (Show strong surprise.)
B: Yes! I started to panic!

C. Now practice using short-form questions and statements as you do the Discussion Builder activities on page 119.

Summit 1