

Exercises

40.1 Match the sentence beginnings and the tails.

1	It's so boring, this cream.
2	I think it's gone off, those two shirts.
3	I took them myself, most of these photos.
4	That's my coat, my sister.
5	They're a bit unfriendly, tennis.
6	It's really annoying, that dripping tap.
7	They're quite similar, the one with the fur collar.
8	She was the first one in our family to go to university, our neighbours.



Now listen and check your answers. Then say the full sentences aloud, making sure you use a rising tone on the tail and a falling tone before it.

EXAMPLE It's so boring ↘, tennis ↗.

40.2 Do you think the tails in these sentences are likely to have a rising tone (put ↗ in the box) or a falling tone (↘)?

EXAMPLE They're all over the kitchen, those beetles. ↗

- Where's it being held, Friday's concert?
- What's it like, this cheese?
- It can be dangerous, skiing.
- It's made from Thai silk, Vicky's dress.
- When are they coming, Frank and Gill?
- How much did you pay for them, these tickets?
- It's not a great day for us to meet, Sunday.



Now listen and check your predictions. Then say the sentences aloud.

40.3 The speakers in this conversation actually used sentences with tails instead of the parts in green. Write down what you think they said and mark the likely intonation with arrows.

- A: **These things are fascinating.** *They're fascinating ↘, these things ↗.*
- B: Careful, **that knife's sharp.**
- A: Looks old, too.
- B: **Most of those things've been in my family for over a hundred years.**
- A: **That's amazing.**
- B: **My grandfather brought them back from Nepal.**
- A: **Nepal is somewhere I'd really like to go.**
- B: Me, too. But I'd have to go by plane, and **I hate flying.**



Now listen and check your answers.

Follow up: Imagine you are being shown around a house that is for sale. Using sentences with tails, think of five criticisms and five compliments you might make. For example: 'It's very small, the garden'; 'It's nicely decorated, the sitting room!'