

Rewrite this definitions

LEARN THIS! Intonation and meaning



1 Agreeing or disagreeing

As in question tags, our voice goes down at the end when we are making a statement or up when we aren't sure.

Her name *is* Sarah. (You don't expect people to disagree.)

Her name *isn't* Sarah. (You aren't sure.)

2 Qualifying an opinion

Rising intonation can give the spoken words a slightly modified opinion:


The film's *quite* good ... (there's an implied *but* at the end)

3 Flat voice for sarcasm or irony

If we use a flat tone, we mean the opposite to the words we use:

Brilliant! (You mean it.)

Brilliant. (You don't mean it.)

6  **2.19** Listen to the sentences (1–6). Choose the correct meaning (a or b).

1 I enjoyed the story.

a qualifying

b a statement

2 Brilliant. It's snowing.

a enthusiastic

b sarcastic

3 You'll love it.

a sarcastic

b expecting agreement

4 This is the road home.

a expecting
disagreement

b expecting agreement

5 This is nice.


a qualifying

b statement

6 Oh, great. Just what we need.

a enthusiastic

b sarcastic

7  **2.20** Listen to the interview. Choose the correct answers (a–d).

- 1 Dr Miriam Webster
 - a is a professor of urban myths and legends.
 - b studies urban legends with her students.
 - c writes down urban legends in her spare time.
- 2 The presenter thinks that urban legends
 - a generally seem unpleasant.
 - b are very charming.
 - c put you in a good mood.
- 3 Dr Webster says that an urban legend
 - a is nearly always written down.
 - b generally has a single source.
 - c has many different versions.
- 4 Urban legends are popular because
 - a most ordinary people like to be shocked or scared.
 - b they are better than Hollywood blockbuster films.
 - c humans have a need for turning life events into stories.
- 5 The aim of the programme is to
 - a convince us that urban legends are generally true.
 - b show us exactly where urban legends came from.
 - c explain why we are wrong about urban legends.