CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter presents the findings and discussions of the study which is divided into four parts and is organized in the order as follows: types of English question tag produced by English department students, respond to English question tag produced by English department students, the function of English question tag according to the given contexts, and the appropriateness of the responses of English question tag made by English department students in given contexts.

A. Types of English Question Tag Produced by English Department Students

The researcher gathered all English question tags produced by English department students presented in DCT sheets that have been administered. The data were put in the evaluation sheet for English question tag forms (See Appendix 5). The total of the English question tag produced was 100 questions. 40 question tags were the data to answer the curiosity of how English department students produced question tags with positive statement. 60 question tags were the data to answer the curiosity of how English department students produced question tag with negative statement.

1. **Types of English Question Tag with Positive Statement Produced by English Department Students**

After the researcher analyzed the types of English question tag with positive statement produced by English department students presented in DCT sheets that have been given to them, it can be concluded that all research subjects used grammatically dependent affirmative sentence + negative tag to produced question tag with positive statement (See Appendix 6). The number of grammatically dependent affirmative sentence + negative tag was 40 questions or 100% of the entire English question tag. The research subjects did not use grammatically independent question tag types such as constant polarity and invariant tag. Table 4.1.1 displays the complete information of the distribution of the English question tag with positive statements types presented in DCT sheet that produced by English department students.

Table 2 The Types of English Question Tag with Positive Statement Produced by English Department Students

No	English Question Tag Types	Frequency	Percentage
1	**Grammatically Dependent** Affirmative sentence + negative tag	40	100%
2	**Grammatically Independent** Constant polarity	-	-
3	**Grammatically Independent** Invariant tag	-	-
	Total	**40**	**100%**

The dominant types of English question tag with positive statement produced by English department students was grammatically dependent affirmative sentence + negative tag which was 100% of all question tags

produced. The following examples of grammatically dependent affirmative sentence + negative tag were taken from the answers that the research subjects gave in DCT sheets number 1

1. *The due date of this portfolio task is this Friday, is not it?*
2. *The due date of it is this Friday, isn't it?*
3. *The due date is this Friday, is not it?*
4. *The due date is this Friday, isn't it?*

and number 7

5. *Mark will graduate this June, won't he?*
6. *Mark will graduate this year, won't he?*

The basic structure of English question tag is an anchor accompanied by a tag. For the examples above, the structure was divided into two parts as follows:

Anchor	Tag
The due date of this portfolio task is this Friday	*is not it?*
The due date of it is this Friday	*isn't it?*
The due date is this Friday	*is not it?*
The due date is this Friday	*isn't it?*
Mark will graduate this June	*won't he?*
Mark will graduate this year	*won't he?*

The sentences like "the due date of this portfolio task is this Friday", "the due date of it is this Friday", "the due date is this Friday", "the due date is this Friday", "Mark will graduate this June", and "Mark will graduate this year" are the anchors. Meanwhile, their tags are "is not

it?", "isn't it?", and "won't he?" The examples of English question tag presented above are categorized as grammatically dependent affirmative sentence + negative tag because the anchors are affirmative sentences; and the tags are negative tags.

However, there were no grammatically independent such as constant polarity and invariant tag used by research subjects in creating question tag with positive statement. In fact, native speakers of English also use the grammatically independent like constant polarity and invariant tag in their daily conversation.

There is a possibility they make a constant polarity English question tag "The due date is this Friday, is it?" to seek an agreement. This type is used in informal conversation (Baker, 2015). In the context in DCT sheet number 1, people can use this kind of English question tag type because here, the speaker and the hearer have an equal status – they are teammates, an equal power, and no distance. So, it is alright to use the constant polarity types. In this context, people also can create invariant tag "innit?" like "the due date of it is this Friday, innit?" The tag "innit?" simplified of "isn't it?" is also commonly used by natives in asking for agreement using English question tag. In the United Kingdom daily conversation, this tag is quite understandable (Achiri-Taboh, 2015). Natives usually put invariant tag like "ain't + subject?", "eh?" and "right?" in their conversation (Baker, 2015) as in the question like "The due date is

this Friday, ain't it?", "The due date is this Friday, eh?" and "The due date

is this Friday, right?" The invariant tag such as "eh?" and "right?"

2. Types of English Question Tag with Negative Statement

Produced by English Department Students

After the researcher analyzed the types of English question tag with

negative statement produced by English department students presented in

DCT sheets that have been given to them, it can be concluded that all

research subjects used grammatically dependent negative sentence +

positive tag to produced question tag with negative statement (See

Appendix 7). The number of grammatically dependent negative sentence +

positive tag was 60 questions or 100% of the entire English question tag.

The research subjects did not use any grammatically independent question

tag types such as constant polarity and invariant tag. Table 4.1.2 displays

the complete information of the distribution of the English question tag

with negative statements types presented in DCT sheet that produced by

English department students.

Table 3 The Types of English Question Tag with Negative Statement

Produced by English Department Students

No	English Question Tag Types	Frequency	Percentage
1	**Grammatically Dependent** Negative sentence + affirmative tag	60	100%
2	**Grammatically Independent** Constant polarity	-	-
3	**Grammatically Independent** Invariant tag	-	-
	Total	**60**	**100%**

The dominant types of English question tag with negative statement produced by English department students was grammatically dependent negative sentence + positive tag which was 100% of all question tags produced. The following examples of grammatically dependent negative sentence + positive tag were taken from the answers that the research subjects gave in DCT sheets number 3

1. *We don't need any brown sugar to make our brownies, do we?*
2. *We do not need brown sugar for the brownies, do we?*
3. *We do not need to buy brown sugar, do we?*
4. *We don't need brown sugar, do we?*
5. *We do not need it, do we?*
6. *We don't need it, do we?*

and number 9

7. *You haven't seen cherry blossoms since you came here, have you?*
8. *You have not seen cherry blossoms, have you?*
9. *You have not seen cherry blossoms, have you?*
10. *You haven't seen cherry blossoms, have you?*

English question tag consists of an anchor and a tag. For the examples above, the structure is divided into two parts as follows:

Anchor	Tag
We don't need any brown sugar to make our brownies	*do we?*
We do not need brown sugar for the brownies	*do we?*
We do not need to buy brown sugar	*do we?*
We don't need brown sugar	*do we?*
We do not need it	*do we?*
We don't need it	*do we?*

Anchor	Tag
You haven't seen cherry blossoms since you came here	*have you?*
You have not seen cherry blossoms since you came here	*have you?*
You have not seen cherry blossoms	*have you?*
You haven't seen cherry blossoms	*have you?*

The sentences such as "we don't need any brown sugar to make our brownies", "we do not need brown sugar for the brownies", "we do not need to buy brown sugar", "we don't need brown sugar", "we do not need it", "we don't need it", "you haven't seen cherry blossoms since you came here", "you have not seen cherry blossoms since you came here", "you have not seen cherry blossoms", and "you haven't seen cherry blossoms" are the anchors. While their tags are "do we?" and "have you?" The examples above is classified as grammatically dependent negative sentence + affirmative tag because the anchors are negative sentences; and the tags are affirmative tags.

However, there were no grammatically independent such as constant polarity and invariant tag used by research subjects in creating question tag with negative statement. The grammatically independent such as constant polarity and invariant tag also possible to be used in creating English question tag with negative statement. The negative tag added after the negative statement as its anchor is quite understandable in United Kingdom spoken English (Achiri-Taboh, 2015).

In this case, this constant polarity English question tag type can be applied in DCT number 9. The possible English question tag produced is "You haven't seen cherry blossoms, haven't you?" Native people of English are also likely to create invariant tag types such as "eh?" and "right?" in the English question tag with negative statement since it is used commonly in United Kingdom spoken English and quiet understood (Axelsson, 2011). In this case, the possible question are "You haven't seen cherry blossoms, eh?" and "You haven't seen cherry blossoms, right?"

B. Respond to English Question Tag Produced by English Department Students

The researcher gathered all responses to English question tags produced by English department students presented in DCT sheets that have been administered. The data were put in the evaluation sheet for English question tag forms (See Appendix 8). The total of the responses to English question tag was 100 questions. 2 DCT questions aimed to give answer on how the research subjects respond to English question tags with positive statement. 3 DCT questions were planned to give the data about how English department students respond English question tag with negative statement.

1. Respond to English Question Tag with Positive Statement Produced by English Department Students

After the researcher analyzed the Indonesia English department students' response to English question tag with positive

statement presented in DCT sheets that have been distributed to
them, it can be concluded that all research subjects used affirmative
to respond English question tag with positive statement (See
Appendix 9). The number of affirmative respond to question tag
with positive statement was 40 responses or 100% of the entire
responses. The research subjects did not use negative response to
question tag with positive statement. Table 4.2.1 displays the
complete information of the distribution of the responses to English
question tag with positive statements presented in DCT sheet that
produced by English department students.

Table 3 Respond to English Question Tag with Positive

Statement Produced by English Department Students

No	Expected Answer	Participant Answer	Frequency	Percentage
1	Affirmative	Affirmative	40	100%
2	Affirmative	Negative	-	-
	Total		**40**	**100%**

The respond to all English question tag with positive
statement produced by English department students was
affirmative respond. The following example was taken from
respond that the research subjects wrote in DCT sheets number 2.
The example of question tag for this situation is "the due date is
this Friday, isn't it?" All of the research subjects responded this
kind of question with either "Yes", "Yes. It is", or "Yes. The due
date of it is Friday".

Another example was taken from respond that the research subjects gave in DCT sheets number 8. The example of question tag for this particular situation was "Mark will graduate in June, won't he?" All of the research subjects responded this kind of question with either "Yes", "Yes. He will", or "Yes. He will graduate in June" No negative respond was created to respond English question tag with positive statement.

As stated by Azar (1989), the expected answer of English question tag with positive statement is affirmative. In this research, it can be found that all of the research subjects respond the English question tag with positive statement using affirmative response. This finding is in line with Azar's theory.

2. **Respond to English Question Tag with Negative Statement Produced by English Department Students**

After the researcher analyzed the Indonesia English department students' response to English question tag with negative statement presented in DCT sheets that have been distributed to them, it can be concluded that some research subjects used positive and some of them used negative to respond English question tag with negative statement (See Appendix 10). The number of affirmative respond to question tag with negative statement was 24 responses or 40% of the entire responses. In addition, some research subjects used negative response to respond

English question tag with negative statement. The number of

negative respond to question tag with negative statement was 36

responses or 60%. Table 4.2.2 displays the complete information of

the distribution of the responses to English question tag with

negative statements presented in DCT sheet that produced by

English department students.

Table 4 Respond to English Question Tag with Negative

Statement Produced by English Department Students

No	Expected Answer	Participant Answer	Frequency	Percentage
1	Negative	Affirmative	24	40
2	Negative	Negative	36	60
Total			**60**	**100%**

Several research subjects gave affirmative respond to

English question tag with negative statement. The examples of

affirmative respond to English question tag with negative statement

were taken from data of DCT sheets number 4. The example of

question tag for this situation is "we don't need brown sugar, do

we?" Some of the research subjects respond it with either "Yes.

We don't", "Yes. We don't need it", or "Yes. We don't need

brown sugar". Another example was taken form data of DCT

sheets number 6. The example of question tag for this situation is

"Mama Suh didn't attend the charity due to her busy schedule, did

she?" Several research subjects responded it with either "Yes. She

didn't attend it" or "Yes. She didn't attend the charity due to her busy schedule".

Some of the research subjects gave negative respond to English question tag with negative statement. The examples of negative respond to English question tag with negative statement were taken from data of DCT sheets number 6. The example of question tag for this particular situation is "Mama Suh didn't attend the charity due to her busy schedule, did she?" Several research subjects respond it with either "No", "No. She didn't", or "No. She didn't attend it". Another example was taken from data of DCT sheets number 10. The example of question tag for this situation is "You haven't seen cherry blossoms since you came here, have you?" Some of the research subjects respond it with either "No", "No. I haven't", or "No. I haven't seen cherry blossoms since I came here."

The expected answer of English question tag with negative statement is negative (Azar, 1989). In this point, some research subjects responded it with affirmative respond; and it is not in line with Azar's theory. This might create confusion and misunderstanding. Moreover, some research subjects respond it with negative respond; and it is in line with Azar's theory.

C. The Function of English Question Tag According to the Given Contexts

English question tag can be used to get information or a reaction from someone especially someone's agreement (Buysse, 2017; Harres, 1998; Harris, 1984). To elicit a response such as seeking confirmation, natives of English tend to use English question tag. It is commonly used by native speakers of English in their daily conversation. When they have an information, but they are not pretty sure about it, most of the time, they confirmed the information using English question tag. English question tag effectively validates the unclear information.

By analyzing data from interviewing the natives speakers, it can be concluded that all of them were agree that English question tag is used to confirm something. They had the same idea that to seek for confirmation, they could use English question tag. In addition, in the contexts given to the research subjects, they felt sure that all of the question tag produced aim to seek for certainty. To the contexts written in the DCT sheets, they were assured of the information that is lack of certainty can be confirmed to other person whom they speak to by applying English question tag.

The situation written on the number 1 DCT sheet is a girl named Irene is asking confirmation for the due date submission of English task to her friend, Andy. The teacher gave them a portfolio task. Their classmates told Irene that task should be submitted this Friday. Irene is uncertain about

this information. She then ask Andy for agreement. The research subjects then used English question tag to this particular situation. The question like "The due date of it is this Friday, isn't it?" was made.

The second context given to the research subject is your mother believes that you and your mother do not need any brown sugar to make brownies, but somehow she is not pretty sure about it. She needs to confirm it to you. To respond this situation, the research subjects used English question tag. The question like "We don't need any brown sugar to make brownies, do we?" was created.

The third situation presented in the DCT sheet is you are in a meeting with community. Last month, the community held a charity. It seems that Mama Suh did not attend the charity last month due to her busy schedule. You want to make sure about it by looking for confirmation from the head of the community. Due to this situation, the research subjects use English question tag. To respond this situation, the question like "Mama Suh didn't attend the charity last month, did she?" was used.

The fourth situation written in DCT sheet is an announcement regarding graduation day is posted on the website. Mark, your best friend is going to graduate this year. But you are uncertain whether he will graduate this June or in the next period. You are asking the administrator for an agreement. Then, the research subjects respond this context by creating English question tag like "Mark will graduate this June, won't he?"

The last context presented in DCT sheets is you have continued your studies at a University in Japan. You have stayed here for about two years. Your new roommate enrolled at the same University of yours this semester. It means that she has experienced the summer and winter only. The spring is coming pretty soon. However, you think that she hasn't seen cherry blossoms since she came here. You find agreement to your roommate. To respond this situation, the research subjects make an English question tag like "You haven't seen any cherry blossom since you came here, have you?"

To sum up, all of the English question tag created by research subjects aim to seek confirmation. The natives speakers were agree that it is possible to use English question tag to respond to the context presented in DCT sheets. Hence, it is strengthen by experts' statements. Question tag is commonly used for confirmatory purposes (Axelsson, 2011; Baker, 2015; Tottie & Hoffmann, 2006).

D. The Appropriateness of the Responses of English Question Tag Made By English Department Students In Given Contexts

The researcher found out that the respond to English question tag with positive statement produced by English department students was 100% affirmative response. This is in line with the expected answer theory by Azar (1989). The native speakers were asked to confirm it. All of them agreed that affirmative response is suitable and appropriate with the context given. One of them stated that "when you are asked a question with positive

statement, you are expected to give a positive response, too. So, just like in this DCT sheet answer"

Moreover, the responses to English question tag with negative statement produced by English department students were 40% affirmative respond and 60% negative respond. The theory by Azar (1989) is the expected answer to the English question tag with negative statement is negative. However, some research subjects answer it with affirmative and the rest with negative. The example is taken from the fifth context of DCT given to the research subjects. The question tag of that particular situation is, for instance, "You haven't seen cherry blossom since you came here, have you?" By implementing Azar's theory, the expected answer is "No. I haven't". Several research subjects respond it with "No. I haven't" as it is in line with Azar's theory.

While the rest of them answer it in affirmative response like "Yes". The native speakers were questioned to this issue. They believed that it is adequate for people to use affirmative to respond it but they have to give additional information. The native speakers claimed that it is possible to give the affirmative respond but then give additional information after that like "Yes. I'm agree with you. I haven't seen any cherry blossom" This answer is still acceptable and is not confusing the hearer. One of the natives being interviewed stated "Let's take an example. For the question like "you don't like coofee, do you?" It would probably be a yes or no with a confirmation. Like "No, I don't like coffee" is the more common way a

person would answer that question. Or not as common but someone could say "Yes, you're right. I don't like coffee". It wouldn't usually be just yes or no by itself".

Several studies regarding to negative questions have been done. The researchers agreed that it is reasonable for people to answer the English negative question with affirmation. When somebody agrees with the negative questions, the given answers will be affirmations to that positive ideas, which are expressed in positive answer particle "yes" – or "yeah" (Masyitah, 2016). In addition, many English speakers happily use the alternative like "Yes. He's not coming" to answer a negative yes-no question such as "Is he not coming?" (Holmberg, 2015). It is considered alright to respond it with positive answer article but better to insert spare details.