Rhetorical Questions

A rhetorical question is a question asked in order to create a dramatic effect or to make a point rather than to get an answer.

For example: "How could I be so stupid?"

Whereas: "Do you have a cat?" needs an answer and therefore is not a rhetorical question.

Read and decide which of these are rhetorical questions:

a) Don't you ever think about anyone else?
b) Don't you want any cake?
c) Are you tired?
d) Are you interested in having more time to relax?
e) Are you expecting visitors?
f) Do you want your children to live in poverty?
g) When will this madness end?
h) When are you going to school?
i) If we don't stop now, what will be next?

Now think of some rhetorical questions for these situations.

1) You want your family to let you watch your favourite TV programme.
   For Example: Have you any idea how educational Spongebob Squarepants is?

2) You forgot your homework and you don’t want the teacher to be angry.

3) You want your parents to let you stay out late at night.

Extension task = Choose your own topics and come up with rhetorical questions for them.