

Yes/No & Information Questions

Chapter Preview

Listen to the dialogue and read along. Notice the words in color. Different ways of asking questions are marked red.

What to notice:

- The word order used in asking different kinds of questions.
- The question words.

Check Chapter 5 Vocabulary at the end of this chapter to see the definition of the following word:
merchandise.



Julie: Ahh, excuse me, **is anyone sitting here?**

Becky: Oh no, have a seat. . . .

Julie: Thanks.

Becky: You're new here, **aren't you?**

Julie: Oh, **yes, I am**. My name's Julie Fitzgerald.

Becky: Oh, nice to meet you, Julie. I'm Becky Smith. So **which** department do you work in?

Julie: Oh, I'm in Women's Casual. **What about** you?

Becky: Well, for the moment, I'm in Children's, but I really want to work in the Furniture department. Hey, **where** did you work before?

Julie: Oh, at Fisher's. It's in Westin, my hometown. But this store is so much bigger! It's going to take me a few weeks to learn my way around the store.

Becky: I'm sure you'll do fine. Well, **what kind of** merchandise did you **sell** at Fisher's?

Julie: Oh, it was mostly sports stuff — camping equipment, balls, skates, you know. It was fun, but I decided to move here a month ago. So, **how long** have you **worked** here, Becky?

Becky: Well, I've been here for three years. It's a good place to work, you'll see. And speaking of work, **what time** is it, Julie?

Julie: Oh, it's 1:45. **Do you need to get back to your department?**

Becky: Yeah, I've got to go. Nice talking with you.

Julie: Bye.

Becky: Bye.

5-2 Yes/No and Information Questions

A yes/no question = a question that can be answered by "yes" or "no"

A: *Does Ann live in Montreal?*

B: *Yes, she does.* OR *No, she doesn't.*

An information question = a question that asks for information by using a question word:

where, when, why, who, whom, what, which, whose, how

A: *Where does Ann live?*

B: *In Montreal.*

(Question Word)	Helping Verb	Subject	Main Verb	(Rest of Sentence)	
(a)	<i>Does</i>	<i>Ann</i>	<i>live</i>	In Montreal?	The same subject-verb word order is used in both yes/no and information questions:
(b) Where	<i>does</i>	<i>Ann</i>	<i>live?</i>		<i>Helping Verb + Subject + Main Verb</i>
(c)	<i>Is</i>	<i>Sara</i>	<i>studying</i>	at the library?	Example (a) is a yes/no question.
(d) Where	<i>Is</i>	<i>Sara</i>	<i>studying?</i>		Example (b) is an information question.
(e)	<i>Will</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>graduate</i>	next year?	
(f) When	<i>will</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>graduate?</i>		
(g)	<i>Did</i>	<i>they</i>	<i>see</i>	Jack?	
(h) Who(m)*	<i>did</i>	<i>they</i>	<i>see?</i>		
(i)	<i>Is</i>	<i>Heidi</i>		at home?	In (i) and (j): Main verb be in simple present and simple past (am, Is, are, was, were) precedes the subject. It has the same position as a helping verb.
(j) Where	<i>Is</i>	<i>Heidi?</i>			
(k)		<i>Who</i>	<i>came</i>	to dinner?	When the question word (e.g., who or what) is the subject of the question, usual question word order is not used.
(l)		<i>What</i>	<i>happened</i>	yesterday?	Notice in (k) and (l) that no form of do is used.

*See Chart 5-4 for a discussion of *who(m)*.

Chapter 5 Diagnostic Section 1

Complete the questions. Use *what, who, when, whose, why, which, how, how far, how long, how soon, or how often*.

- 1 A: do you like this town?
B: We love it.
- 2 A: Traffic was terrible this morning. did it take you to get to work?
B: An hour.
- 3 A: lunch is this?
B: It's Pam's. She'll be right back.
- 4 A: is picking you up from school this afternoon?
B: My older brother.
- 5 A: are you going to leave?
B: In about an hour.
- 6 A: These are the two bookcases we can afford. one would be better?
B: The shorter one.

Chapter 5 Diagnostic Section 2

Write complete questions. Use the information in *italics* to help you.

- 1 Jill got a new job *last week*.
?
- 2 She works *at an Internet firm*.
?
- 3 She is going to *develop marketing plans* for the company.
?
- 4 She plans to be there for *at least two years*.
?
- 5 She drives to work *three times a week*.
?
- 6 She goes to work *by bus* on the other days.
?
- 7 She works *sixty hours* a week.
?