

Questions, question tags, indirect questions

Questions		
Form	Normal main verbs	Simple tenses • Do you feel cold? • Did they go shopping? Continuous tenses • Am I annoying you? • Were they waiting for you? Perfect tenses • Have you seen this film? • Had it started?
	Be as a main verb	• Am I late? • Were you all right? • Have you been ill?
	Have as a main verb	• Does she have a bath every day? • Did they have lunch at one o'clock?
	Modals	• Should I call the police? • Could you call me later?
	Question words	• Who was in prison? • What's your name? • Where do they live? • Why did you do that?
Watch out! - To form questions in the passive, we put the auxiliary verb before the subject. If there is more than one auxiliary verb, only the first one goes before the subject. ✓ Was Mr Jenkins arrested yesterday? ✓ Has Mr Jenkins been arrested? - With the question words <i>who</i> and <i>what</i>, we use <i>do</i> as an auxiliary verb if the question word refers to the object of the verb. ✓ Who told you? (= Someone told you. Who?) ✓ Who did you tell? (= You told someone. Who?)		

Questions tags		
Use		Example
To ask someone to agree with us		<i>It's confusing, isn't it?</i>
To check whether something is true		<i>You haven't been to prison, have you?</i>
Form	Normal main verbs	Simple tenses • Phil works here, doesn't he? • They didn't leave, did they?
	Continuous tenses	• You are coming, aren't you? • They weren't looking, were they?
		Perfect tenses • They've gone, haven't they? • You hadn't seen it, had you?
	Be as a main verb	• He's new here, isn't he? • You weren't old enough, were you?
	Have as a main verb	• They have a car, haven't / don't they? • You didn't have a shower every day, did you?
Modals		• Jan should be here by now, shouldn't she? • You won't make a mess, will you?
Helpful hints In sentences with <i>I am</i>, we use <i>aren't I?</i> In sentences with <i>I'm not</i>, we use <i>am I?</i> ✓ I'm right, aren't I? ✓ I'm not stupid, am I? Watch out! With <i>Let's</i>, we use <i>shall</i> in the question tag. ✓ Let's do the washing-up later, shall we?		

Indirect questions		
Phrase + clause with normal word order		
Form	Use	Example
	To ask questions politely	Can/Could you tell me where the bank is?
		Can/Could you let me know what time the film starts?
		Do you know if Alison lives there?
		I wonder if you could tell me where the toilets are.
		I wonder if you know how much this costs.
Watch out! We don't use question word order in the second half of the sentence.		

A The words and phrases in bold in each sentence are wrong. Write the correct word or phrase.

- 1 Does Debbie **likes** Greek food?
- 2 Did Anne and Carlo **went** to Spain last year?
- 3 **Was** Dawn and Jennifer with you?
- 4 **Has Claudia** a haircut every Thursday?
- 5 Have you **buy** the new Arctic Monkeys' CD yet?
- 6 **Does** Tim going to be in the school play?
- 7 **It would be** the best thing to do?
- 8 Were you **play** basketball when it started snowing?

B Write one word in each gap.

- Rachel:** Hi, Ben! (1) are you?
Ben: I'm fine. (2) you hear about Mr Watkins, the maths teacher?
Rachel: No. (3) happened to him?
Ben: He fell out of the window of his classroom!
Rachel: (4) pushed him?
Ben: No one!
Rachel: So how (5) it happen?
Ben: He was sitting on the windowsill and he just fell backwards!
Rachel: Oh dear! Poor Mr Watkins. (6) he hurt?
Ben: No. Luckily his classroom is on the ground floor.
Rachel: That's lucky! (7) you there at the time?
Ben: Yes! We were having a maths lesson.
Rachel: So (8) did you all do?
Ben: We ran outside to help him. We were all laughing, though!
Rachel: (9) he think it was funny, too?
Ben: Not at first, but he laughed about it afterwards.

C Match to make sentences.

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1 You live in a village, | A weren't they? |
| 2 You're not fifteen years old, | B have you? |
| 3 Carol has a maths test tomorrow, | C don't you? |
| 4 They were having lunch at the time, | D didn't they? |
| 5 You've been to France, | E are you? |
| 6 I'm not the only one, | F haven't you? |
| 7 They all passed the test, | G will she? |
| 8 You haven't seen Linda anywhere, | H doesn't she? |
| 9 She won't tell anyone else, | I isn't it? |
| 10 This is the right DVD, | J am I? |

D Complete the question tags.

- 1 Mark doesn't eat meat, he?
- 2 We should phone Grandma, we?
- 3 I didn't get you into trouble, I?
- 4 You weren't waiting for me, you?
- 5 Jill has finished her homework, she?
- 6 You'll call me later, you?
- 7 Let's go out tonight, we?
- 8 I'm going to pass the exam, I?

E Choose the correct answer.

- 1 Excuse me. Could you tell me how much, please?
A are these jeans B these jeans are
- 2 Can you let me know what time ?
A does the train arrive B the train arrives
- 3 Do you know if at seven o'clock?
A the show starts B does the show start
- 4 I wonder if you could tell me what
A is the difference B the difference is
- 5 I wonder if you know who ask.
A I should B should I

F Complete each second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence.



- 1 Where's the post office?
I wonder if you could tell me
- 2 Why did you do that?
Could you tell us ..?
- 3 How much will the holiday cost?
Can you let me know ..?
- 4 Are there any cafés near here?
Could you tell me if ..?
- 5 Does Jim like jazz music?
Do you know ..?