

# Yes/No & Information Questions

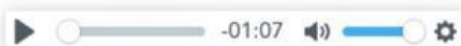
## Chapter Preview

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

\*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.  
?