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 *who* and *what*, we use *do* 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

Form

Use		Example
To ask someone to agree with us		*It's confusing,* ***isn't it****?*
To check whether something is true		*You haven't been to prison,* ***have you****?*
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 am*, we use *aren't I?* In sentences with *I'm not*, we use *am I?*
✓ ***I'm*** *right,* ***aren't I****?* ✓ ***I'm not*** *stupid,* ***am I****?*

Watch out!

With *Let's*, we use *shall* in the question tag.
✓ ***Let's*** *do the washing-up later,* ***shall we****?*

Indirect questions

Form

Phrase + clause with normal word order

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.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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 ..... ?

LIVEWORKSHEETS