

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