

The background is a gradient of dark blue and purple, speckled with small white dots. On the left side, there is a large, semi-circular scale with markings from 140 to 260. Several concentric circles and arcs are scattered across the image, some with arrows indicating a clockwise direction. The text 'ENGLISH QUESTIONS' is positioned on the right side in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# ENGLISH QUESTIONS

## Simple Present Questions:

QUESTION WORD	AUXILIARY VERB	SUBJECT	MAIN VERB	
Where	do	you	work?	
What	does	Martha	think	about the project?
How	do	you	like	your new apartment?
How many kids	does	Bob	have?	

## Simple Past Questions:

QUESTION WORD	AUXILIARY VERB	SUBJECT	MAIN VERB	
How	did	they	learn	English so fast?
When	did	you	get home	from work yesterday?
What	did	the manager	think	about your idea?
Where	did	you	buy	that T-shirt?

## Present Continuous Questions:

QUESTION WORD	AUXILIARY VERB	SUBJECT	MAIN VERB	
What	are	you	doing	at the moment?
Why	is	he	ignoring	me?
What time	are	we	meeting up	for dinner?
Who	is	she	dating	now?

## Past Continuous Questions:

QUESTION WORD	AUXILIARY VERB	SUBJECT	MAIN VERB	
Who	were	you	talking	to on the phone?
What	was	Jim	doing	when you called?
Why	were	the children	eating	candy before dinner?
How	was	he	feeling	after the surgery?



## Present Perfect Questions:

QUESTION WORD	AUXILIARY VERB	SUBJECT	MAIN VERB	
How much money	have	you	spent	on clothes this month?
How long	has	your teacher	worked	at this school?
What	have	they	been doing	all day?
How long	has	the client	been waiting	for their order?

## Future Questions:

QUESTION WORD	AUXILIARY VERB	SUBJECT	MAIN VERB	
Who	will	you	invite	to the party?
What	will	your parents	think	about your plan?
When	are	you	going	to clean your room?
Why	is	she	going	to quit her job?

## Modal Questions:

QUESTION WORD	AUXILIARY VERB	SUBJECT	MAIN VERB	
What	would	you	do	if you had a million dollars?
How	could	we	improve	our English?
Where	should	I	go	on my next vacation?



# Exceptions:

Yes/No questions do not use a question word...

...but they still follow **ASM** (Auxiliary verb – Subject – Main verb)

- Do you like bananas?
- Did you enjoy the movie?
- Are you studying English?
- Were you sleeping when I called you last night?
- Have you finished your homework?
- Will you call me when you get home?
- Are you going to accept the job offer?
- Should we take the early morning flight?

Questions where the main verb is “be” also don’t follow the pattern:

- Are you thirsty?
- Is she a teacher?
- Were your parents angry when you failed the test?
- Was her ex-boyfriend a basketball player?

## What is reported speech?

“Reported speech” is when we talk about what somebody else said – for example:

**Direct Speech:** “I’ve been to London three times.”

**Reported Speech:** She said she’d been to London three times.

We often use “reported speech” when talking about a conversation that happened in the past. There are some changes to the verbs with reported speech; read the table to find out how each verb tense changes:

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH	EXAMPLE
Simple present	Simple past	"I <b>want</b> to go home." She said she <b>wanted</b> to go home.
Present continuous	Past continuous	"I'm <b>reading</b> a good book." She said she <b>was reading</b> a good book.
Simple past	Past perfect	"I <b>ate</b> pasta for dinner last night." She said she'd <b>eaten</b> pasta for dinner last night.
Present perfect	Past perfect	"I've just <b>finished</b> cleaning my room." She said she'd just <b>finished</b> cleaning her room. "My mother <b>has</b> never <b>been</b> to Japan." She said her mother <b>had</b> never <b>been</b> to Japan.
Can / can't	Could / couldn't	"I <b>can</b> meet with you next Monday." She said she <b>could</b> meet with me next Monday. "Sorry, I <b>can't</b> talk now. I'm at work." She said she <b>couldn't</b> talk at the moment because she was at work.
Will / won't	Would / wouldn't	"I'll pick him up at the airport." She said she'd pick him up at the airport. "I <b>won't</b> tell anybody your secret." She said she <b>wouldn't</b> tell anybody my secret.

Be careful: “said” and “told” have a small difference.

After “told,” we need to include a person:

- She **said** she wanted to go home.
- She **told me** she wanted to go home.
- She **told John** that she wanted to go home.
- ~~She told she wanted to go home.~~
- ~~She said me that she wanted to go home.~~



# What Are Indirect Questions?

**Direct questions** are the “normal” questions that we can ask friends, family members, and people who we know well. You can [form direct questions using the QUASM model](#) that we learned last lesson.

Example of a direct question:

**“Where’s the bathroom?”**

**Indirect questions** are a little more formal and polite. We use them when talking to a person we don’t know very well, or in professional situations, and their form is a little different.

Example of an indirect question:

**“Could you tell me where the bathroom is?”**





## Phrases For Indirect Questions

- Could you tell me...
- Do you know...
- I was wondering...
- Do you have any idea...
- I'd like to know...
- Would it be possible...
- Is there any chance...

# Direct And Indirect Questions In English: Examples

**Direct:** Where is Market Street?

**Indirect:** Could you tell me where Market Street is?

In indirect questions with **is/are**, the verb (is) comes **after** the subject (Market Street).

**Direct** What time does the bank open?

**Indirect:** Do you know what time the bank opens?

In indirect questions, we don't use the auxiliary verbs **do/does/did**. Also, you can see that the verb is "open" in the direct question, and "opens" in the indirect question.

**Direct:** Why did you move to Europe?

**Indirect:** I was wondering why you moved to Europe.

Again, there is no auxiliary verb **did** in the indirect question. In fact, this indirect question isn't even a question – it's more of a statement that invites the other person to give more information.

**Direct:** How has he managed to get in shape so quickly?

**Indirect:** Do you have any idea how he's managed to get in shape so quickly?

The auxiliary verbs **have** and **has** can be used in both the direct and indirect questions – but in the direct question, “has” comes **before** the subject (he), and in the indirect question, “has” comes **after** the subject.

**Direct:** How much does this motorcycle cost?

**Indirect:** I'd like to know how much this motorcycle costs.

To form the indirect question, remove **does** and change “cost” to “costs.”

**Direct:** Can you finish the project by tomorrow?

**Indirect:** Would it be possible for you to finish the project by tomorrow?

For direct questions with **can**, we can use the phrase “would it be possible...” to make it indirect.

**Direct:** Can we change the meeting to Thursday?

**Indirect:** Is there any chance we could change the meeting to Thursday?

“Is there any chance...” is another option for forming indirect questions with **can**.



## Yes/No Direct Questions → “If” In Indirect Questions

If the direct question is a “yes or no” question (it has no question word such as what, who, when, where, why, or how), then the indirect question will have **if**.

**Direct:** Does Tom like Italian food?

**Indirect:** Do you know **if** Tom likes Italian food?

**Direct:** Are your parents joining us for dinner?

**Indirect:** Could you tell me **if** your parents are joining us for dinner?

**Direct:** Do they speak English?

**Indirect:** I was wondering **if** they speak English.

**Direct:** Has Barbara ever studied abroad?

**Indirect:** Do you have any idea **if** Barbara's ever studied abroad?

**Direct:** Do you plan on traveling this summer?

**Indirect:** I'd like to know **if** you plan on traveling this summer.

## OBJECT QUESTIONS IN ENGLISH

Most questions in English are **object questions** – we want to know about the receiver of the action. These questions follow the **QUASM formula**: Question word – Auxiliary verb – Subject – Main verb.

For questions in the simple present, the auxiliary verbs are **do** and **does**:

- **What do** you want to drink?  
We want **some fruit juice**.
- **Who does** Karen like?  
Karen likes **Fred**.
- **What does** smoking cause?  
Smoking causes **cancer**.

For questions in the simple past, the auxiliary verb is **did**:

- **What did** Daniel make?  
Daniel made **a sandwich**.
- **What did** the earthquake damage?  
The earthquake damaged **my house**.
- **Who did** Jennifer lie to?  
Jennifer lied to **Sam**.



## SUBJECT QUESTIONS IN ENGLISH

However, sometimes we want to ask about the **subject**. We *don't know* the person or thing who performed the action, and we want to find out.

This type of question is called a **subject question**, and subject questions do NOT use the auxiliary verbs **do**, **does**, and **did**.

### How to form subject questions:

- Who / What + verb in simple present or simple past + object ?

### Examples of subject questions in the simple present:

- **Who** wants some fruit juice?  
**We** want some fruit juice.
- **Who** likes Fred?  
**Karen** likes Fred.
- **What** causes cancer?  
**Smoking** causes cancer.

### Examples of subject questions in the simple past:

- **Who** made a sandwich?  
**Daniel** made a sandwich.
- **What** damaged your house?  
**The earthquake** damaged my house.
- **Who** lied to Sam?  
**Jennifer** lied to Sam.

## SUBJECT AND OBJECT QUESTIONS IN OTHER VERB TENSES

In other verb tenses – present continuous, present perfect, etc. – the auxiliary verbs are forms of the verbs **be** and **have**. In these verb tenses, we still use the verbs **be** and **have** in both subject and object questions:

### Present continuous:

- Subject Q: **Who** is washing the car?
- Object Q: **What** is Paul washing?
- Answer: **Paul** is washing **the car**.

### Past continuous:

- Subject Q: **Who** was talking about the problem?
- Object Q: **What** was the manager talking about?
- Answer: **The manager** was talking about **the problem**.

### Present perfect:

- Subject Q: **Who** has spent \$1000 on a computer?
- Object Q: **How much** have your parents spent on a computer?
- Answer: **My parents** have spent **\$1000** on a computer.

### Present perfect continuous:

- Subject Q: **Who** has been working on this project?
- Object Q: **What** have you been working on?
- Answer: **I** have been working on **this project**.

### Future with WILL:

- Subject Q: **What** will help the students?
- Object Q: **Who** will this book help?
- Answer: **This textbook** will help **the students**.

### Future with GOING TO:

- Subject Q: **Who** is going to order dessert?
- Object Q: **What** are you going to order?
- Answer: **We** are going to order **dessert**.



# THE SIMPLEST RULE FOR SUBJECT/OBJECT QUESTIONS

When you are going to ask a question in the **simple present** or **simple past** using **who** or **what**, ask yourself,

“Am I asking about the **doer** of the action or the **receiver** of the action?”

If you're asking about the **doer/subject**, then DON'T use do/does/did:

- ~~Who **does** want fruit juice?~~  
Who wants fruit juice?
- ~~What **did** damage your house?~~  
What damaged your house?

If you're asking about the **receiver/object**, then YES – use do/does/did:

- What **do** you want to drink?
- What **did** the earthquake damage?