

1.1 Different question types

1 We often form questions by putting an auxiliary verb **before** the subject.

1 Have you ever been to Malaysia?

2 Why does he want to work abroad?

3 How long has she been living here?

4 Will they get married here or back in their own country?

5 Can I speak to you privately for a moment please?

6 When will they have finished the new building?

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1 When we ask about the **subject** of a sentence, the **question word** replaces the **subject**.

- 1 Which countries have a royal family?
- 2 Who has had an awkward experience in a foreign country?

2 The question uses normal **statement word order**.

We do **not** use *do/does/did* in normal **positive** questions about the subject.

- 1 What happened to him? NOT ~~What did happen ...?~~
- 2 Who likes travelling by themselves? NOT ~~Who does like travelling ...?~~

3 When we ask **negative** questions we use *don't/doesn't/didn't*.

Notice that the question still uses normal **statement word order**.

- 1 Which nationalities **don't** like standing too close?
- 2 Who **didn't** feel at ease speaking in front of all those people?

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1 If we begin a question with a phrase such as *Do you know ...? Do you think ...? Have you any idea ...?* we call these **indirect questions**.

2 **Indirect questions** use normal **statement word order**.

1 Do you think she will be comfortable with that idea?

2 Have you any idea where I can find a second hand bookshop?

3 We do **not** use *do/does/did* in **indirect questions**.

1 Do you know where he has his Italian lessons?

NOT ~~Do you know where does he have his Italian lessons?~~

2 Do you think they went that way?

NOT ~~Do you think they did go that way?~~

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1 When a **question word** is the **object** of a **preposition**, the **preposition** usually goes **at the end** of the **question**.

- 1 Who are you talking **about**?
- 2 Which job is he applying **for**?

2 In **very formal style**, we sometimes put the **preposition at the beginning** of the **question**.

- 1 **From** which presentation did you learn most about the business?
- 2 **For** how long did he work at his previous company?
- 3 **To** whom was the letter addressed?

3 Note that in this **formal style**, we use *whom* instead of *who* as the **object**.

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1 Which questions are correct? Correct any mistakes you find.

1 What did he say to you?



2 Who did steal his phone?

☐ Who stole his phone?

3 Do you have any idea where does he live?

☐ Do you have any idea where he lives?

4 Can I ask you where did they go?

☐ Can I ask you where they went?

5 Which picture are you looking at?



6 From who did she get her money?

☐ From whom did she get her money?/Who did she get her money from?