

Object Questions

In object questions the **question word** is the **object** of the sentence.
We use auxiliary and modal verbs to make object questions.

question word	extra words	auxiliary or modal	subject	body
Where When Who Why What How***	—	do, does, did can, could shall, should may, might will, would must	I you he she it we they there*	ordinary verbs (simple) play, write, like, see, go make, do, wait, eat, need jump, open, close, have**
How many	countable nouns eg. people, children, cats	am, are, is, was, were	cheese that cat	adjectives (simple) happy, sad, rich, clever, old
How much	uncountable nouns eg. water, time, money		Mr Jones elephants the shop your phone	nouns (simple) a doctor, a woman, friends, places / times (simple) at home, in the box, next to
How	adjectives / adverbs eg. far, often, long, old, tall	have, has, had		-ing forms (continuous) going, doing, having, eating
What	nouns			Third forms (perfect) got, been, done, gone, sold
Which Whose	eg. time, colour, film, page, book, wallet, one			

* In "Is there any milk in the fridge?" and "How many rooms are there in your flat?" the **subject** is **there**.

** **Have** is both an **ordinary** verb and an **auxiliary** verb.

You **can** say "Have you got any money?" - it is a **present perfect** sentence with **auxiliary have**.

You **can** say "Do you have any money?" - it is a **present simple** sentence with **ordinary have**.

You **can't** say "Have you any money?" - It **isn't** a **present perfect** sentence so you can't use **auxiliary have**.

*** You can't ask "How to say ____ in English?" or "How to use this app?" because you need an **auxiliary** and a **subject**.
Instead you have to ask "How **do you** say ____ in English?" and "How **do you** use this app?"

Negative questions

We use auxiliary and modal verbs with **n't** to make negative questions.

Why **don't** you like my haircut?

Which one **isn't** right?

Why **didn't** he come to the lesson?

Why **weren't** you here on time?

Why **haven't** you done your homework?

Why **shouldn't** I have another glass of wine?

Subject Questions

In subject questions the **question word** is the **subject** of the sentence. Subject questions are constructed like normal sentences.

	Missing information	Question
Object question	Boris killed _____.	Who did Boris kill?
Subject question	_____ killed Alex.	Who killed Alex?
Object question	The storm destroyed _____.	What did the storm destroy?
Subject question	_____ destroyed my house.	What destroyed your house?
Object question	Donald came with ____ girls.	How many girls did Donald come with?
Subject question	____ girls came with Donald.	How many girls came with Donald?

Questions with Prepositions

In questions with prepositions, the preposition moves **to the end**.

Missing information	Question
I am looking at _____.	What are you looking at ?
I live on the ____ floor.	What floor do you live on ?
My mother is from _____.	Where is your mother from ?
I went to the cinema with _____.	Who did you go to the cinema with ?*
That present is for _____.	Who is that present for ?*
I am listening to _____.	What are you listening to ?
I arrived at _____.	What time did you arrive? **
We are going to _____.	Where are you going? **
It is in _____.	Where is it? **
We are leaving on _____.	When are you leaving? **

* In the past we said "with whom did you go?" and "for whom is that present?"

We don't speak like that any more and it sounds very old fashioned if you do.

** We don't usually say **in**, **at**, **on** or **to** in questions starting with **where**, **when** and **what time**.

So, too, either, neither

		My partner	
		YES	NO
Me	YES	same here me too so ____ I I ____ too.	Oh, I ____
	NO	Oh, I ____n't	same here me neither neither ____ I I ____n't either.

_____ is an auxiliary or modal verb.

- do, does, did
- am, is, are, was, were
- have, has, had
- can, could, should, will, would

You can pronounce either and neither i-ther or ee-ther. It doesn't matter!

Indirect questions

You can make a question more polite by adding something to the start. This is called an **indirect question** and it's formed like an ordinary sentence without auxiliaries.

Polite part

Question part

I don't know how to say it in English.*

I would like to know your favourite food. **

Can you let me know what time the concert starts?

Could you tell me if you are a vegetarian? ***

Would you mind telling me what you would like to do next?

Would you be so kind as to tell me where my seat is?

* *How do you...* questions change to *How to* when they are indirect.

** When we make a *What is...* question indirect, we just use the subject without a verb.

*** When we make a yes/no question indirect we use

if or **whether**.

Question tags

We use **Question Tags** when we think we know something, but we want to **check**.

NB: The answer to "you don't like it, do you?" is "No, I don't", not "Yes, I don't"

When it is a **genuine question**, your voice should **go up** at the end.

When you just want someone to **agree with you**, your voice should **go down**.

negative tag

positive tag

With do

You speak Spanish, **don't you?**

You don't eat meat **do you?**

She loves swimming, **doesn't she?**

He doesn't like me **does he?**

You went there last year, **didn't you?**

You didn't go to university **did you?**

With be

You're from Moscow, **aren't you?**

You aren't very well, **are you?**

It's really good, **isn't it?**

English isn't easy, **is it?**

I'm your favourite student **aren't I?***

I'm not going to fail, **am I?**

We were at school together, **weren't we?**

You weren't here yesterday **were you?**

With modals

It should work now, **shouldn't it?**

I shouldn't have said that, **should I?**

You can drive, **can't you**

You can't swim, **can you?**

His phone must be off, **mustn't it?**

Everything will be ok, **won't it?**

They won't find me here, **will they?**

* You can't say "amn't I", so we usually say "aren't I". You can also say "am I not?" but it sounds very formal.