

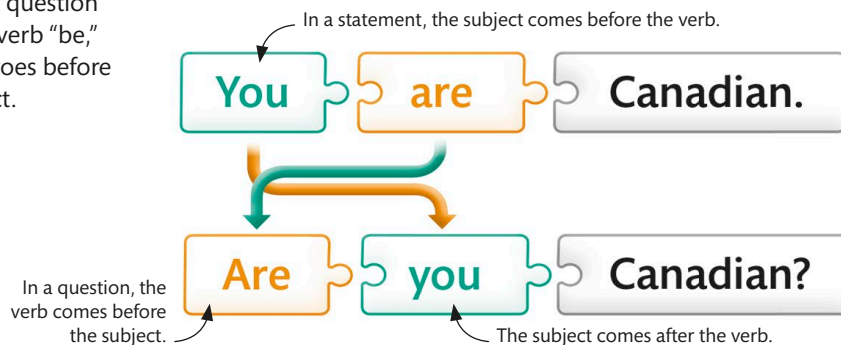
34 Forming questions

If a statement uses “be” or an auxiliary verb, its question form is made by inverting that verb and the subject. Any other question is formed by adding “do” or “does.”

See also:
Present simple 1 Types of verbs 49
Modal verbs 56

34.1 QUESTIONS WITH “BE”

To make a question using the verb “be,” the verb goes before the subject.



FURTHER EXAMPLES

Sorry, **am I** early?



Are you tired?



Are they engineers?



Is Frieda here yet?



Is she still a student?



Aren't you bored?

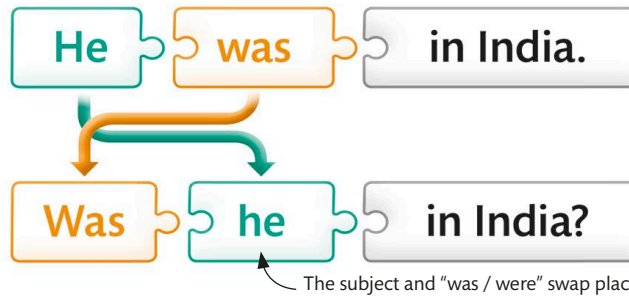


HOW TO FORM

“BE”	SUBJECT	REST OF SENTENCE
Am	I	Canadian?
Are	you / we / they	
Is	he / she / it	

34.2 QUESTIONS WITH "BE" IN THE PAST

To ask questions about the past using the verb "be," the subject and verb swap places.



FURTHER EXAMPLES

Was it nice and sunny yesterday?



Were there any snacks at the party?



Was he good at playing tennis?

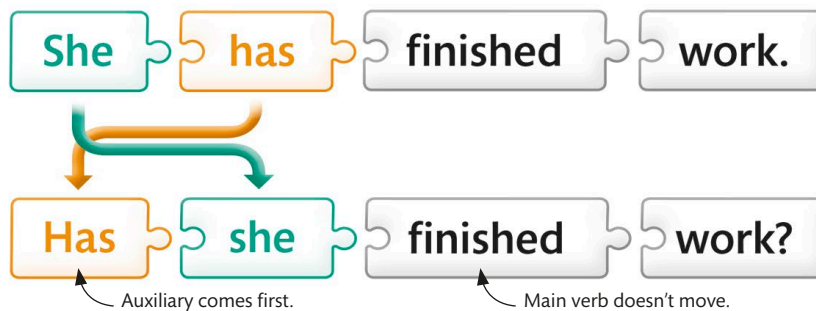


Were you at the party last night?



34.3 QUESTIONS WITH AUXILIARY VERBS

For questions including an auxiliary verb, such as "have," "will," and "could," the subject and the auxiliary verb swap places. The main verb stays where it is.



FURTHER EXAMPLES

Could you tell me where the stadium is, please?



Should we have called ahead before coming?



Have they decided when they're going to get married yet?



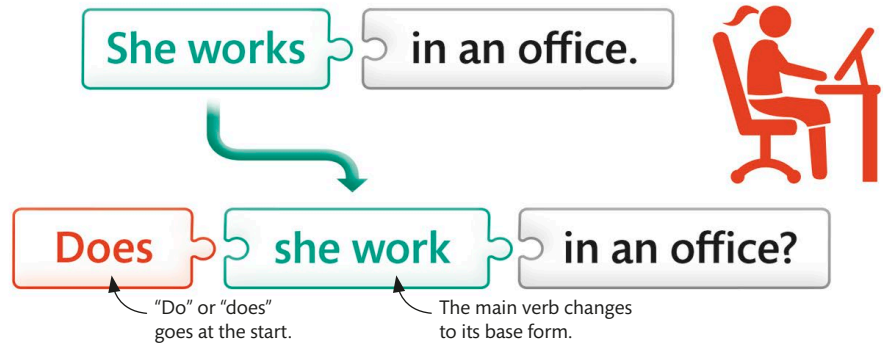
Will you have finished that report by tomorrow?



If a question has more than one auxiliary verb, only the first one moves.

34.4 QUESTIONS WITH "DO" AND "DOES"

Questions in the present simple without the verb "be" or an auxiliary verb start with "do" or "does" and have the main verb in its base form. The subject and main verb do not swap around.



FURTHER EXAMPLES

Do they live in Paris?



Does he get up very early every morning?



Do you speak English?



Does your father work on a farm?



Do I know you?



Does she still play the piano?



Don't you have any vegetarian food on the menu?



Doesn't this office have air conditioning?

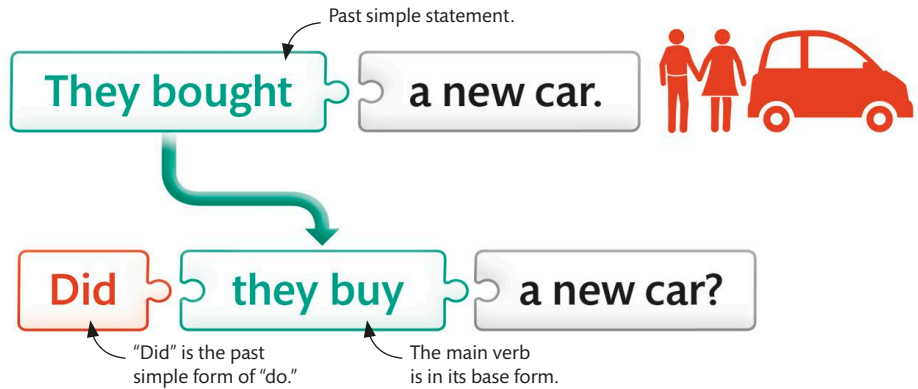


HOW TO FORM



34.5 QUESTIONS WITH "DID"

Questions in the past simple without the verb "be" or an auxiliary verb start with "did" and have the main verb in its base form. The subject and main verb do not swap places.



FURTHER EXAMPLES

Did they have a good time?



Did she meet her friends in town?



Did you read a book on the beach?



Did he go to the gym?



Did I tell you the good news?



Did Jack just get fired?



Did you swim in the sea?



Didn't we meet at the conference last year in Paris?



! COMMON MISTAKES BASE FORMS IN QUESTIONS WITH "DO"

When questions are formed with the auxiliary verb "do," the main verb must be in the base form.

Does she work in a school? ✓

Did they buy a new car? ✓

Does she works in a school? ✗

Did they bought a new car? ✗