

42 Questions overview

42.1 FORMING QUESTIONS

Questions in English are formed either by swapping the positions of the subject and the verb, or by using the auxiliary verb "do."



Tania is a pharmacist.

Is Tania a pharmacist?

The subject and "be" swap places.

42.2 SUBJECT AND OBJECT QUESTIONS

Questions in English are formed differently depending on whether they are asking who or what did an action or who or what received an action.

STATEMENT

Subject → **Ben** called the bank. Object → 

Subject questions ask who did an action. The question word is the subject of the main verb. They do not use the auxiliary verb "do."

SUBJECT QUESTION

Question doesn't use "did."

Who called the bank?



Ben.



Object questions ask who received an action. The question word is the object of the question. They usually use the auxiliary verb "do."

OBJECT QUESTION

Question uses "did."

Who did **Ben** call?



The bank.

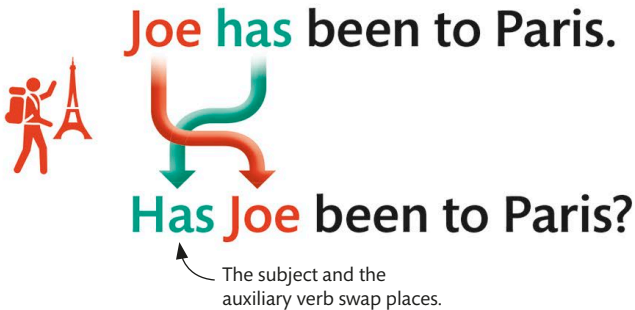


Questions in English are formed in different ways depending on the main verb. Open and closed questions are formed differently, and spoken with different intonation.

See also:

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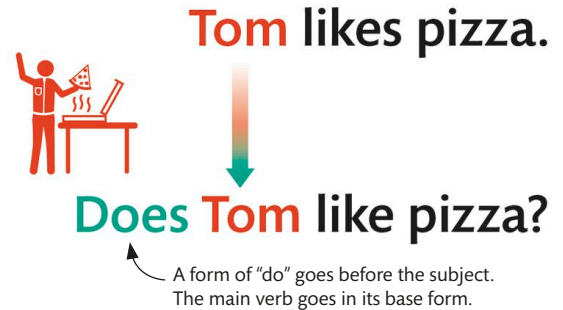
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Joe has been to Paris.

Has Joe been to Paris?

The subject and the auxiliary verb swap places.



Tom likes pizza.

Does Tom like pizza?

A form of "do" goes before the subject. The main verb goes in its base form.

42.3 QUESTION TAGS AND SHORT QUESTIONS

Question tags are added to the end of a question, usually to ask someone to agree with you. A positive statement is followed by a negative question tag, and vice versa.

You like skiing, **don't you?**



Short questions are used to show that someone is listening to the speaker. They are positive for positive statements and negative for negative statements.

Yes, I go skiing twice a year.



Do you?

42.4 CLOSED AND OPEN QUESTIONS

Closed questions can only be answered with "yes" or "no." When they are spoken, the voice often rises at the end of the question.

Does Stevie work in an office?

Open questions are formed by adding question words to the start of the question. They can be answered in many different ways. The tone of the speaker's voice usually falls at the end of open questions.

Where does Stevie work?

