



Questions

How or wh... questions are asked to get answers that are not yes or no.

The following words can be used to make questions:

how, where, which, who, whose, why, what, when

Excuse me! Where's Princess Diana Hospital?

Turn left at the next set of lights. You can't miss it.

What's the problem, Mrs Jones?

I've got a sore throat and a bad cough.

How are you feeling, Ann?

Awful. I think I've got the flu.



A noun can be added to which, whose and what.

Which room is Jeremy Taylor in?

412. Take the elevator to the fourth floor and then follow the signs.

What drugs did the doctor prescribe for your throat?

Penicillin and some cough mixture.

An adjective or adverb can be added to how.

How bad is the pain?

How often do I take these pills?

Questions with the answer 'Yes' or 'No'

The first auxiliary verb or modal verb is placed before the subject in yes or no questions.

Are you feeling better?

Have you ever had pneumonia?

Can I go back to work?

Should I phone for an ambulance?

Present Simple and Past Simple Questions

Present simple questions are made with *do* (*do I/we/you/they*) or *does* (*does he/she/it*). Past simple questions are made with *did* (*did I/we/you/they,he/she/it*).

Do I need to rest?

Yes, you do.

Where do I go for my X-ray?

Go down the hall to Radiology.

Did you think he looked better or worse when you saw him?

I thought he looked better.



Subject Questions

When *How* or a *Wh...* word is the subject of the sentence, *do/does/did* are not used. *How* or *Wh...* are placed before the verb.

Who performed the operation?

Dr Jones.

What happened to your head?

I fell and hit it on the door.

Exercise 1: In three of the questions below, *How* or a *Wh...* word is the subject. In the other three questions, *How* or a *Wh...* word is the object. Put the words in the right order in each question. Then answer the questions.

1. *when you / looks after / who / you / are sick ?*
2. *to try / healthy / things / what / do you / do / and stay ?*
3. *when someone / what / the flu / happens / gets ?*
4. *last / many times / how / you / did / visit the doctor / year ?*
5. *who / the most / famous doctor / in / history / is ?*
6. *the doctor / do you / how much / pay / visit / to ?*

Question Tags

Questions tags are used in speaking to check that something is true. An auxiliary verb is followed by a pronoun (*I, you, he, she, it, we, they*).

1. In these examples, the auxiliary verb in the main clause is positive, so the question tag is negative.

You're feeling better, aren't you?

He's in Room 412, isn't he?

2. In these examples, the auxiliary verb in the main clause is negative, so the question tag is positive.

You've never had a blood test, have you?

She isn't still in hospital, is she?

3. When there is no auxiliary verb, *do/does/did* is used.

Dr. Jones performed the surgery, didn't he?

You like grapes, don't you?

Exercise 2: Complete the gaps in the sentences below with the correct question tag.

1. You'll come and visit me in hospital, _____? - *Of course I will.*
2. You don't smoke, _____? - *No, I don't.*
3. He has seen Dr. Jones before, _____? - *Yes, he has.*
4. When I have my tonsils out, I can eat lots of grapes and ice-cream, _____? - *Yes, of course.*
5. You haven't had a blood test before, _____? - *No I haven't.*
6. You won't tell anyone I fainted, _____? - *Of course I won't.*
7. You like this hospital, _____? - *Yes, I do. The nurses are great and it's very comfortable.*
8. Your boss knows you are ill, _____? - *Yes, he does.*

Answers - Exercise 1:

1. Who looks after you when you are sick?
2. What things do you do to try and stay healthy?
3. What happens when someone gets the flu?
4. How many times did you visit the doctor last year?
5. Who is the most famous doctor in history?
6. How much do you pay to visit the doctor?

Answers - Exercise 2:

1. won't you, 2. do you, 3. hasn't he, 4. can't I, 5. have you, 6. will you, 7. don't you, 8. doesn't he.

