

In the name of God , the most gracious , the most merciful

﴿ وَفَوْقَ كُلِّ ذِي عِلْمٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴾

Al-Mustaqbal University

College of Technology & Health Sciences

Department : Medical Laboratories Techniques

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M.Sc Rusul Niema Baiee

Wh_questions

Meaning of Wh_question in English that is a request for information. Wh- questions usually start with a word beginning with wh-, but "how" is also included. The wh- words are: what, when, where, who, whom, which, whose, why, and how . We use them to ask for information. The answer cannot be yes or no:

Forming wh-questions :

With an auxiliary verb (فعل مساعد) :-

We usually form wh-questions with wh- + an auxiliary verb (be (is , are) , do , has or have) + subject + main verb + ? (question mark).

For examples :

When are you leaving?

Where do they live?

What have they decided?

Without an auxiliary verb :-

When what, who, which or whose is the subject or part of the subject, we do not use the auxiliary. We use the word order subject + verb:

What fell off the wall?

Which horse won?

Who bought this?

Whose phone rang?

Compare

- **Who owns this bag?**
Who is the subject of the sentence and this bag is the object. We use no auxiliary verb.
- **Who do you love most?**
Who is the object of the sentence and you is the subject. We use the auxiliary verb do.

Responding to wh-questions

Wh-questions ask for information and we do not expect a yes-no answer to a wh-question. We expect an answer which gives information:

A: Where's the coffee machine? (We expect an answer about the location of the coffee machine.)

B: It's in the room next to the reception.

A: How old is your dog? (We expect an answer about the age of the dog.)

B: She's about five. I'm not very sure.

Negative wh-questions

When we ask negative wh-questions, we use the auxiliary verb do when there is no other auxiliary or modal verb, even when the wh-word is the subject of the clause:

- **Who wants an ice cream?**
- **Who doesn't want an ice cream?**
- **Which door opened?**

- Which door didn't open?

Prepositions with wh-questions

We can use wh-words and phrases after prepositions in more formal questions:

Where will the money come from?

From where will the money come?

.....

When : ask about time of an event or activity

- **When** did he leave?
- **When** can I see you again?

Why : ask about reason

- **Why** are they always late?
- **Why** do you dislike him so much?

Which : ask about choices

- **Which** color do you want?
- **Which** book are you looking for?

Whom : ask about people (Act as the object of the sentence)

- **Whom** did you see?
- **Whom** is he dating?
- **Whom** would you suggest for the job?
- **Whom** did they invite?

What : ask for information (or things)

- **What** is your name?
- **What** is this?

Where : ask about places

- **Where** do you live?
- **Where** were the keys?

Whose : ask about ownership

- **Whose** book is on the table?
- **Whose** idea is it?

Who : ask about people (Act as the subject of the sentence)

- **Who** is at the door?
- **Who** is this?
- **Who** locked the door?
- **Who** do you work for?

How : ask about a procedure or method

- **How** does this work?
- **How** was your exam?
- **How** can I help you?

How Many? *Asking about a number*

- **How many** cars are there?
- **How many** people live in this city?

How Much? *Asking about an amount or price*

- **How much** money do you have?
- **How much** did you pay for the tickets?

How Long? *Asking about a length of time or size*

- **How long** will you be in Japan?
- **How long** have you been married?

How Far? *Asking about a distance*

- **How far** does the road continue?
- **How far** is it to Karbala?

How Often? *Asking about frequency*

(Adverbs of frequency tell us how often something takes place or happens)

- **How often** do you use the bus?
- **How often** do you go to school?