



Wh – questions

Wh-questions are also called *question-word questions* and are used to find out more information about a topic. The structure of a wh-question is:

question-word + auxiliary + subject

The wh-questions are: **what, who, where, why, when, how (how much, how many, how long, how often, how far), which, whose and whom.**

Wh-question	Kinds of information	Question	Answer
What	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The object of a verb or a preposition▪ Unlimited number of choices▪ Activities▪ Description (person or thing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What are you eating? What are you talking about?▪ What is your favorite food?▪ What are you writing?▪ What does she look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A chicken. My trip.▪ Pizza!▪ A letter▪ She is tall and thin.
Who	Person	Who are you?	I'm the owner of the house.
Where	Place	Where are you from?	I'm from England.
Why	Reason	Why are you here?	Because I have an appointment.
When	Time	When did you arrive?	Five minutes ago.
How	Manner, method or way in which something is done	How do you travel to work?	By bus.
How much	Amount (uncountable)	How much does it cost?	Five pounds.
How many	Quantity (plural countable nouns)	How many exams have you done?	Ten.
How long	Duration	How long have you been studying law?	Three years.



Wh – questions

How often	Frequency	How often do you go swimming?	Twice a week.
How far	Distance	How far is it to the theatre?	Three kilometers.
Which	Choice (people or things)	Which hat do you like?	This one!
Whose	Possession	Whose car is this?	It's Jenny's. (car can be omitted)
Whom	Person (object of the sentence)	Whom did you see?	I saw Brian.

Subject questions

When the subject of a question is the interrogative pronoun (or question word) there is no inversion and no auxiliary verb *do* in the question. These questions are called *subject questions*. Subject questions are used to ask for the identity of the subject and the structure of the sentence is:

question-word + verb

Pay attention with these wh-questions: who, what, which and whom. They can be used in subject questions.

Who won the match? Alice won the match.

What caused the accident? The storm.

Which **book** is yours? This book is mine.

Whose **car** is this? It's Ms.Smith's.