

**File 1A - Question Formation**

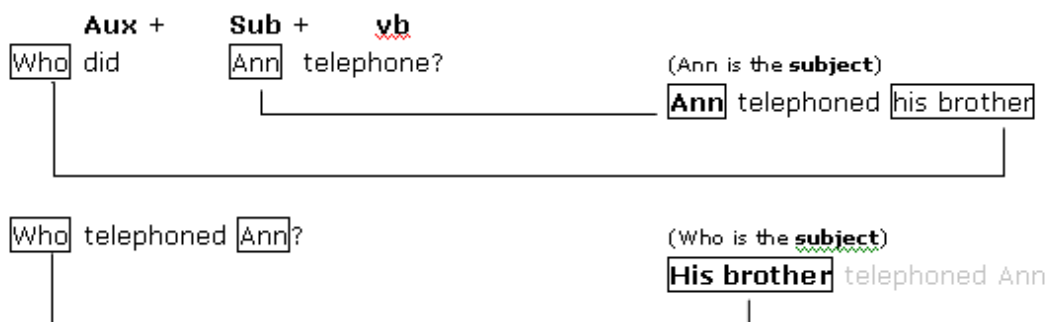
a/ We usually make questions by changing the word order: we put the verb before the subject with verb *to be*, *auxiliary verbs* (have, will, would) and *modal verbs*.

| Subject + Vb | → | Vb + Subject |                                   |
|--------------|---|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| it is        | → | is it?       | <b>Is it</b> raining?             |
| you can      | → | can you?     | When <b>can you</b> come?         |
| Tom has      | → | has Tom?     | Where <b>has Tom</b> gone?        |
| you would    | → | would you?   | What <b>would you</b> like to do? |

b/ We use **do/does** in the *present simple* questions and **did** in the *past simple* questions

|                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Do you like music?                | Where <b>does Jack</b> live?     |
| When <b>did they get</b> married? | Why <b>did Ann</b> sell her car? |

But be careful with **who/what/which, etc.** questions.  
 If **who/what/which, etc.** is the **subject** of the sentence, do not use **do/does/did**.



c/ **Negative questions** (use the negative form of the auxiliary verb).

Didn't you hear me?  
 Why don't we go out for a meal?  
 Haven't you finished yet?

d/ **Prepositions** come at the end of the question.

What are you talking **about**?     ~~About what are you talking?~~

e/ When we ask people for information we sometimes begin our question with **Do you know...?**, **Could you tell me...?**, or **Do you remember...?** ... to sound more polite. If you begin a question like this, the word order is different from a simple question.

**Compare**

|                                  |   |                 |            |                          |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Is it raining?                   | → | Do you know     | if/whether | it is raining?           |
| Where <b>has Tom</b> gone?       | → | Can you tell me | where      | <b>Tom has</b> gone?     |
| When <b>did they get</b> married | → | Do you remember | when       | <b>they got</b> married? |

**File 1A - Question Formation – Exercises**

**1- Ask questions about Ed and Liz.**

1. (where / Ed and Liz / live?) ..... "In Liverpool".  
*Donde viven Ed y Liz*
2. (how long / they / be / married?) ..... "15 years".  
*Cuánto llevan casados*
3. (they / go out / very often?) ..... "No, not very often".  
*Salen muy a menudo*
4. (they / have / a car?) ..... "Yes, they do".  
*Tienen coche*
5. (when / they / buy / it?) ..... "Two years ago".  
*Cuándo lo compraron*

**2- Make questions with **who** or **what**.**

Example: "Somebody hit me" " Who hit you ..... ?  
 "John hit his brother" " Who did John hit ..... ?

1. "Someone gave me this key" "Who ..... ?  
*Quién te dió esta llave*
2. "Someone lives in that house" "Who ..... ?  
*Quién vive en esa casa*
3. "Henry gave me this key" "What ..... ?  
*Qué te dió Henry*
4. "Something happened" "What ..... ?  
*Qué sucedió*

**3- Make negative questions**

1. A- I hope we don't meet Brian tonight"  
 B- "Why? (you / not / like / him?) ..... ?"
2. A- I'll have to borrow some money"  
 B- "Why? (you / not / have / any?) ..... ?"
3. A- You look tired. (you / not / sleep / well?) ..... ?"  
 B- No, I didn't. I drank too much coffee.

## ANSWERS

Ex 1

- 1 Where **do Ed and Liz live**?
- 2 How long **have they been** married?
- 3 **Do they go** out very often?
- 4 **Do they have** a car?
- 5 When **did they buy** it?

Ex 2

- 1 Who **gave** you this key?
- 2 Who **lives** in that house?
- 3 What **did Henry give** you?
- 5 What **happened**?

Ex 3

- 1 **Don't you like** him?
- 2 **Don't you have** any?
- 3 **Didn't you sleep** well?