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Master 1, Architecture, Semester 2

Course 07

Question Formation

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Introduction

This course is designed to equip you with the necessary skills to construct and understand various types of questions. Understanding how to formulate questions effectively is essential for effective communication, information gathering, and critical thinking.

This course focuses on two main types of questions: WH-questions and yes/no questions.

Course Objectives

01 One

To understand the purpose and importance of question formation in communication.

02 Two

To learn the structure and formation of WH- and yes/no questions.

03 Three

To practice constructing questions in various contexts.

Types of Questions

a. WH-Questions:

WH-questions, also known as information questions, typically begin with interrogative words such as: who, what, where, when, why, and how. These words all start with the letters "WH," they are used to inquire about specific information or details.

Examples:

- Who is coming to the party?
- What time does the movie start?
- Where did you go on vacation?
- When is the deadline for submission?
- Why are you upset?
- How did you solve the problem?

Types of Questions

b. Yes/No Questions:

Yes/no questions are questions that can be answered with a simple "yes" or "no."

They typically started with an auxiliary verb and finished with a question mark.

Yes/no questions are often used for seeking confirmation, agreement, or disagreement.

Examples:

- Are you coming to the party?
- Did you watch the movie?
- Have you visited that place before?
- Can you swim?
- Will you attend the meeting?

WH-Questions

Who:

- **Definition:**

- "Who" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about the identity or attribution of a person or people.
- It is used to ask questions about individuals performing actions, being subjects of sentences, or holding specific roles or positions.

- **Usage:**

"Who" is primarily used to seek information about people in various contexts, including:

- Identifying individuals: "Who is that person?"
- Inquiring about actions performed by specific people: "Who won the race?"
- Asking about roles or positions: "Who is the boss of the company?"
- Seeking clarification or attribution: "Who wrote this article?"

- **Grammatical Role:**

- "Who" is singular, but it can refer to both singular and plural antecedents.
- In formal writing or speech, "whom" is used as the object form of "who."

WH-Questions

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "who" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

- **Examples:**

1. "Who won the competition?"
2. "Who called you?"
3. "Who is the president?"
4. "Who wrote this song?"

- **Considerations:**

- **Using "to be":**

When you're asking about identity, characteristics, or attributes, you typically use "to be."

1. Example: "Who is she?" (asking about someone's identity)
2. Example: "Who are the winners?" (asking about the identity of the winners)

- **Using "to do":**

When you're asking about actions or activities that someone performs, you use "to do."

1. Example: "Who does the dishes?" (asking about someone's action)
2. Example: "Who does he know here?" (asking about someone's acquaintances)

WH-Questions

What:

- **Definition:**

"What" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about objects, actions, events, qualities, or quantities. It is used to ask questions about things, ideas, concepts, or occurrences.

- **Usage:**

"What" is versatile and can be used in various contexts to seek information or clarification, including:

1. Inquiring about objects or things: "What is that?"
2. Asking about actions or events: "What happened?"
3. Questioning qualities or characteristics: "What color is it?"
4. Seeking clarification or specifics: "What time is it?"

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

1. In WH-questions, "what" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

Examples:

- "What is this?" auxiliary verb (to be) is used in the present tense and it's asking about the state or identity of something (this). The structure is: What + is (auxiliary) + subject (this).
- "What are you doing?" here the question is in the present continuous tense, asking about an action (doing) currently in progress. The structure is: What + are + subject (you) + present participle (doing).
- "What caused the problem?" here no auxiliary verb is needed. This question is in the past tense and is asking about the cause of something (the problem). The structure is: What + past tense (caused) + subject (the problem).
- "What do you want to eat?" Here, the auxiliary verb "do" is used. "Do" is used because the question is in the present simple tense, and it's asking about an action (want to eat). The structure is: What + do + subject (you) + base form of the verb (want) + infinitive (to eat).

WH-Questions

When:

- **Definition:**

"When" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about the time or moment when an event, action, or occurrence happens or is expected to happen. It is used to ask questions about temporal aspects of events or actions.

- **Usage:**

"When" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Specific times or dates: "When is the meeting?"
2. Time frames or durations: "When did it start raining?"
3. Sequences or schedules: "When do we leave?"
4. Historical or future events: "When did World War II end?"

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "when" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

- **Examples:**

1. "When is your birthday?"
2. "When did you wake up this morning?"
3. "When will the next bus arrive?"
4. "When does the store close?"

- **Considerations:**

"When" is typically followed by the auxiliary verb "will" for future tense questions, "did" for past tense questions, and other appropriate auxiliary verbs for different tenses.

WH-Questions

Where:

- **Definition:**

"Where" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about the location or place where something happens, exists, or is situated. It is used to ask questions about spatial aspects of objects, or events.

- **Usage:**

"Where" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Specific locations or destinations: "Where is the library?"
2. Spatial relationships or directions: "Where does this road lead?"
3. Origins or sources: "Where did you come from?"
4. Existence or presence: "Where are my keys?"

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "where" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

- **Examples:**

1. "Where is the nearest coffee shop?"
2. "Where are my glasses?"
3. "Where did you park your car?"
4. "Where does this path lead?"
5. "Where are we meeting for lunch?"

- **Considerations:**

- **Using "do" as an auxiliary:**

When the main verb is not a form of "be," you use "do" as an auxiliary.

Example: Where **do** you **live**? (we conjugate the verb "to do" and the main verb stay in the base form).

Example: Where **did** she **go**? (we conjugate the verb "to do" and the main verb stay in the base form).

- **Using "be" as an auxiliary:**

When the main verb is a form of "be," you use "be" as an auxiliary.

Example: Where was she yesterday?

WH-Questions

Why:

- **Definition:**

"Why" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about the reason, cause, motive, or purpose behind an action, decision, event, or situation. It is used to ask questions about motivations, justifications, or explanations.

- **Usage:**

"Why" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Reasons or causes: "Why did you choose that option?"
2. Motivations or intentions: "Why are you studying late?"
3. Justifications or explanations: "Why is the sky blue?"

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "why" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

- **Examples:**

1. "Why are you upset?"
2. "Why did the project fail?"
3. "Why do people lie?"

WH-Questions

Which:

- **Definition:**

"Which" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about a specific choice, selection, option, or preference among a limited set of possibilities. It is used to ask questions about alternatives, distinctions, or preferences.

- **Usage:**

"Which" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Specific options or choices: "Which book do you prefer?"
2. Distinctions or specifications: "Which color is your favorite?"
3. Preferences or selections: "Which route should we take?"

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "which" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

- **Examples:**

1. "Which movie should we watch?"
2. "Which restaurant did you choose?"
3. "Which car did you buy?"

WH-Questions

How:

- **Definition:**

"How" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about the manner, method, means, or condition by which something is done, achieved, or experienced. It is used to ask questions about processes, procedures, qualities, or states.

- **Usage:**

"How" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Manner or method: "How do you solve this problem?"
2. Condition or state: "How are you feeling?"
3. Degree or extent: "How much does it cost?"
4. Quality or characteristic: "How is the weather today?"

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "how" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

- **Examples:**

1. "How did you learn to play the piano?"
2. "How are you getting home?"

WH-Questions

Whose:

- **Definition:**

"Whose" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about ownership, possession, or attribution of something. It is used to ask questions about the belonging or association of something with someone or something else.

- **Usage:**

"Whose" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Ownership or possession: "Whose book is this?"
2. Association or relationship: "Whose friend is that?"
3. Attribution or source: "Whose idea was it?"

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "whose" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the noun it is referring to. It is typically followed by a noun or noun phrase to specify the object or thing in question. When forming questions with "whose," you typically do not use the auxiliary "do."

"Whose" acts as an interrogative pronoun on its own.

For example:

Incorrect: Do whose books belong on this shelf?

Correct: Whose books belong on this shelf?

WH-Questions

Whom:

- **Definition:**

"Whom" is an interrogative pronoun used to inquire about the object of a verb or preposition in formal English. It is used to ask questions about the person or people receiving the action of a verb or the object of a preposition.

- **Usage:**

"Whom" is commonly used in formal contexts to seek information about:

1. The object of a verb: "Whom did you see?" **instead of who the person did you see?**
2. The object of a preposition: "To whom were you speaking?"
3. The indirect object of a verb: "Whom did you give the book to?"

"Whom" is more common in written language and formal speech, while "who" is often used in informal speech.

- **Structure in WH-Questions:**

In WH-questions, "whom" is placed at the beginning of the sentence followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary) and the subject.

- **Examples:**

1. "Whom did you meet yesterday?"
2. "Whom did you ask for help?"

WH-Questions

How long:

- **Definition:**

"How long" is an interrogative phrase used to ask questions about the duration, extent, or length of time that something has taken, will take, or is expected to take.

It is often used to inquire about time intervals, durations of actions, or periods of time.

- **Usage:**

"How long" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Duration of an ongoing action or state: "How long have you been waiting?"
2. Duration of a past action or state: "How long did the concert last?"
3. Duration of a future action or event: "How long will the meeting take?"

It can also be used to inquire about lengths of time in various contexts, such as journeys, processes, or activities.

Structure in Questions:

"How long" is typically placed at the beginning of the sentence or question, followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

Examples:

1. "How long have you lived in this city?"
2. "How long does it take to drive to the airport?"

WH-Questions

How often

- **Definition:**

"How often" is an interrogative phrase used to ask questions about the frequency, regularity, or occurrence of an action, event, or phenomenon. It is used to seek information about how frequently something happens or is done.

- **Usage:**

"How often" is commonly used to seek information about:

1. Frequency of recurring actions or events: "How often do you go to the gym?"
2. Regularity of activities or behaviors: "How often do you visit your parents?"
3. Occurrence of phenomena or events: "How often does it rain in this region?"

It can also be used to inquire about habitual actions, routines, or patterns.

- **Structure in Questions:**

"How often" is typically placed at the beginning of the sentence or question, followed by the auxiliary verb (if necessary), subject, and main verb.

- **Examples:**

1. "How often do you check your email?"
2. "How often do you water your plants?"
3. "How often do you travel for work?"

Summarize

Question Word	Meaning	Examples
Who	Person	– Who's that? – That's Nancy.
Where	Place	– Where do you live? – In Boston.
Why	Reason	– Why do you sleep early? – Because I have to get up early.
When	Time	– When do you go to work? – At 7:00.
How	Manner	– How do you go? – By car.
What	Object, Idea, Action	– What do you do for a living? – I am an engineer.
Which	Choice	– Which one do you prefer? – The red one.
Whose	Possession	– Whose is this book? – It's Alan's.
Whom	Object of the Verb	– Whom did you meet? – I met the manager.

Summarize

Question Word	Meaning	Examples
What Time	Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What time did you come home? – At 7 pm.
How Many	Quantity (Countable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How many students are there? – There are twenty.
How Much	Amount, Price (Uncountable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How much time have we got? – Not much time; we have to hurry up.
How Long	Duration, Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How long did you stay in that hotel? – For two weeks.
How Often	Frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How often do you go to the gym? – Twice a week.
How Far	Distance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How far is your school? – It's one mile away.
How Old	Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How old are you? – I'm 16.
How Come	Reason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How come I didn't see you at the party? – I don't know! Maybe I left before you showed up.

Wh-Question Structures

Asking About The Subject:

- If you ask about the subject of the sentence, simply add the question word at the beginning:

Example: James writes good poems. — Who writes good poems?

the word "who" is functioning as the subject of the sentence, and it is already asking about the doer of the action, which is writing. Therefore, there is no need for an auxiliary verb like "do" to form the question. As you can see, apart from replacing "James" with "who", there isn't much change!

Asking About The Predicate : (Predicate is the part of a sentence or clause containing a verb and stating something about the subject _e.g., *went home* in John *went home*)

- If you ask about the predicate of the sentence (the part containing the verb and providing information about the subject), there are three options:
- If a helping (auxiliary) verb precedes the main verb (e.g., can, is, are, was, were, will, would...), add the question word and invert the subject and the helping (auxiliary) verb.

Examples:

- He can speak Chinese. — What can he speak?
- They are leaving tonight. — When are they leaving?

How To Form Negative Wh-Questions?

- When forming negative wh-questions, we use the auxiliary verb “do” when there is no other auxiliary or modal verb:

Affirmative Wh-Questions	Negative Wh-Questions
Where did you go?	Where didn't you go?
Who can bring a laptop?	Who can't bring a laptop?
Who is happy?	Who is not happy?
Who wants an ice cream?	Who doesn't want an ice cream?
Which door opened?	Which door didn't open?
Which worked for you?	Which didn't work for you?
<i>Where did you go?</i>	<i>Where didn't you go?</i>

Wh-Question Structures

- If you ask about the predicate, and there is no helping (auxiliary) verb, and the verb is “to be,” simply add the question word and invert the subject and the verb.

Example:

- The play was interesting. — How was the play?
- If there is no helping (auxiliary) verb in the predicate, and the main verb is not “to be,” add the auxiliary “do” in the appropriate form.

Examples:

- They go to the movies every Saturday. — Where do they go every Saturday?
- He wakes up early. — When does he wake up?
- They sent a letter. — What did they send?

Yes/No Questions

- **Definition:**

Yes/no questions are interrogative sentences that can be answered with a simple "yes" or "no."

They typically begin with an auxiliary verb, the modal verb "do," or the verb "to be" conjugated appropriately, followed by the subject and the main verb in its base form or the appropriate tense.

- **Usage:**

- Yes/no questions are used to seek confirmation, agreement, or denial, as well as to elicit information or clarification.

- They are versatile and can be used in various contexts, including informal conversations, formal interviews, surveys, and examinations.

- **Grammatical Structure:**

In English, the basic structure of yes/no questions is:

Auxiliary verb/modal verb + subject + main verb (base form or appropriate tense) + ? (question mark)

Example: "Are you coming to the party?"

Yes/No Questions

- **Auxiliary Verbs in Yes/No Questions:**

- Auxiliary verbs such as "do," "does," "did," "have," "has," "am," "is," "are," "was," and "were" are commonly used to form yes/no questions. These auxiliary verbs are placed at the beginning of the sentence to form questions.

- **1. Using "to be" as an auxiliary:**

- When the main verb is a form of "be," you use "to be" as an auxiliary in forming yes/no questions.

- 1. Example: Is she here?

- 2. Example: Are you ready?

- **2. Using "to have" as an auxiliary:**

- When forming perfect tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, etc.), you use "to have" as an auxiliary.

- 1. Example: Have you finished your homework?

- 2. Example: Had she ever been to London?

- **3. Using "to do" as an auxiliary:**

- In other cases, such as simple present tense and simple past tense (when the main verb is not "be" or "have"), you use "to do" as an auxiliary.

- 1. Example: Do you like ice cream?

- 2. Example: Did they go to the party?

Yes/No Questions

- **Negation in Yes/No Questions:**

Yes/no questions can also be negative, where the auxiliary verb is negated with "not."

Example: "Is she not coming to the meeting?"

- **Tag Questions:**

- Tag questions are a type of yes/no question added to the end of a statement to confirm or seek agreement.

- They often involve using a shortened form of the auxiliary verb or the verb "to be" with a pronoun.

Example: "You're going, aren't you?"

1. **Rising Intonation:**

Yes/no questions are often characterized by rising intonation at the end of the sentence.

This intonation pattern indicates that the speaker is seeking confirmation or clarification from the listener.

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Practical Exercise

1. What time / children / go to bed?

2. How / her son / know English?

3. What / his dad / read in the evening?

4. Where / her aunt / live?

5. What / they / grow?

6. Where / this man / work?

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#2

Practical Exercise

Exercice 02

Ask the suitable questions depending on the following answers:

-?

Answer: The Eiffel Tower was designed by Gustave Eiffel and his company.

-?

Answer: The Great Wall of China was primarily constructed using bricks, stones, and packed earth.

-?

Answer: The Taj Mahal is located in Agra, India.

-?

Answer: The Colosseum in Rome was built between 70-80 AD during the Roman Empire.

-?

Answer: The Sydney Opera House was designed with its unique shell-like structure to reflect the sails of boats in the harbor and to create a visually striking landmark.

Exercice 02

Ask the suitable questions depending on the following answers:

-

Answer: The ancient city of Machu Picchu was constructed using a technique called ashlar masonry, where stones are cut precisely and fit together without mortar.

-

Answer: Fallingwater was designed by the renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

-

Answer: The idea to construct the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world, originated from the Dubai government's vision for urban development.

-

Answer: The construction of the Golden Gate Bridge took approximately four years, from 1933 to 1937.

-

Answer: The stained glass windows in Notre-Dame Cathedral are cleaned and maintained periodically, usually every few years, to preserve their beauty and structural integrity.

Answer Exercice 02

- **Who** designed the Eiffel Tower?

Answer: The Eiffel Tower was designed by Gustave Eiffel and his company.

- **What** materials were used in constructing the Great Wall of China?

Answer: The Great Wall of China was primarily constructed using bricks, stones, and packed earth.

- **Where** is the Taj Mahal located?

Answer: The Taj Mahal is located in Agra, India, on the banks of the Yamuna River.

- **When** was the Colosseum in Rome built?

Answer: The Colosseum in Rome was built between 70-80 AD during the Roman Empire.

- **Why** was the Sydney Opera House designed with its unique shell-like structure?

Answer: The Sydney Opera House was designed with its unique shell-like structure to reflect the sails of boats in the harbor and to create a visually striking landmark.

Answer Exercice 02

- **How** was the ancient city of Machu Picchu constructed?

Answer: Machu Picchu was constructed using a technique called ashlar masonry, where stones are cut precisely and fit together without mortar.

- **Which** architect is known for designing Fallingwater?

Answer: Fallingwater was designed by the renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

- **Whose** idea was it to construct the Burj Khalifa?

Answer: The idea to construct the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world, originated from the Dubai government's vision for urban development.

- **How long** did it take to build the Golden Gate Bridge?

Answer: The construction of the Golden Gate Bridge took approximately four years, from 1933 to 1937.

- **How often** are the stained glass windows in Notre-Dame Cathedral cleaned?

Answer: The stained glass windows in Notre-Dame Cathedral are cleaned and maintained periodically, usually every few years, to preserve their beauty and structural integrity.

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#3

Practical Exercise

Exercice 03

1.Question:

Answer: Yes, the Parthenon is located in Athens, Greece.

2.Question:

Answer: Yes, the Great Wall of China was primarily built as a defensive structure to protect against invasions from northern tribes.

3.Question:

Answer: Yes, the pyramids in Egypt, are among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

4.Question:

Answer: Yes, Frank Lloyd Wright designed the Fallingwater house in Pennsylvania.

5.Question:

Answer: Yes, the Statue of Liberty was a gift from France to the United States.

Answer Exercice 03

6. Question:

Answer: Yes, the Leaning Tower of Pisa is located in Pisa, Italy.

7. Question:

Answer: Yes, the Eiffel Tower was originally constructed as a temporary structure.

8. Question:

Answer: Yes, the Hagia Sophia was originally built as a Christian cathedral.

9. Question:

Answer: Yes, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is currently the tallest building in the world.

Answer Exercice 03

1.Question: Is the Parthenon located in Athens, Greece?

Answer: Yes, the Parthenon is located in Athens, Greece.

2.Question: Was the Great Wall of China primarily built as a defensive structure?

Answer: Yes, the Great Wall of China was primarily built as a defensive structure to protect against invasions from northern tribes.

3.Question: Are the pyramids in Egypt among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World?

Answer: Yes, the pyramids in Egypt, particularly the Great Pyramid of Giza, are among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

4.Question: Did Frank Lloyd Wright design the Fallingwater house in Pennsylvania?

Answer: Yes, Frank Lloyd Wright designed the Fallingwater house in Pennsylvania.

5.Question: Was the Statue of Liberty a gift from France to the United States?

Answer: Yes, the Statue of Liberty was a gift from France to the United States.

Answer Exercice 03

6. Question: Is the Leaning Tower of Pisa located in Italy?

Answer: Yes, the Leaning Tower of Pisa is located in Pisa, Italy.

7. Question: Was the Eiffel Tower originally built as a temporary structure?

Answer: Yes, the Eiffel Tower was originally constructed as a temporary exhibit for the 1889 World's Fair in Paris..

8. Question: Was the Hagia Sophia originally built as a Christian cathedral?

Answer: Yes, the Hagia Sophia was originally built as a Christian cathedral.

9. Question: Is the Burj Khalifa the tallest building in the world?

Answer: Yes, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is currently the tallest building in the world.

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Thank you !

Do you have any questions?