

Wh Questions

These are the wh-forms and we use them to make open or wh questions : **what, when, where, which, who, whom, whose, why, how**, they are all used to elicit particular kinds of information.

You use **what** when you are asking for information about something.

You use **when** to ask about the time that something happened or will happen.

You use **where** to ask questions about place or position.

You use **which** when you are asking for information about one of a limited number of things.

You use **who or whom** when you are asking about someone's identity.

You use **whose** to ask about possession.

You use **why** to ask for a reason.

You use **how** to ask about the way in which something is done.

Wh-form	Verb	+	Answer
What	is	your name?	My name is Lynne.
When	is	the party?	The party is on Tuesday.
Where	are	you from?	I'm from England.
Which	is	your car?	The red car is mine.
Who	are	you?	I'm Lynne.
Whose	is	this web site?	It's mine.
Why	is	this web site here?	Because it is!
How	are	you?	I'm fine thanks.

What, which and whose can be used with or without a noun as a question word. For example:-

What time is it? = **What** is the **time**?

Which car is yours? = **Which** is your **car**?

Whose web site is this? = **Whose** is this **web site**?

Whom can only be used to elicit information about the **object** of the sentence. Although using whom would be grammatically correct, **we normally use who** because it doesn't sound so formal. For example:-

"Whom did you see?" would normally be expressed as "Who did you see?"

Object Questions

Object questions ask about the object of a sentence. The word order of the question must be changed and the question requires the use of an auxiliary verb (AUXILIARY-SUBJECT-VERB) For example:-

I caught the train to London..... Which train **did you catch?**

I saw a film yesterday..... What **did you see** yesterday?

Mary usually goes to school by bus.....How **does Mary go** to school?

Subject Questions

There are also subject questions. These are questions that we ask to find out about the subject. When **what, which, who or whose** refers to the subject, **the verb doesn't need an auxiliary** For example:

The train to London arrived late.....**Which train arrived** late?"

I won the race.....**Who won** the race?"