

QUESTIONS WITHOUT AUXILIARIES

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn when you do not have to use auxiliaries to form questions.
Key Goals	Here is an outline of what you will learn today: 1. Formation of questions when asking about the subject of the sentence 2. The conjugation of the verb when asking a question about the subject of the sentence

Usually, when we form questions, we have to add auxiliaries to the sentences, but in some cases, we form questions without auxiliaries. It is the case in so called “Subject Questions”.

1. Formation of questions when asking about the subject of the sentence

We use them when we want to find out **who** or **what** has **carried out** an action

Examples:

He loves chocolate. – Who loves chocolate?

They met John yesterday. – Who met John yesterday?

She has visited many places. – Who has visited many places?

The vase was on the table. – What was on the table?

As you can see, we **do not use auxiliaries and we do not change the word order**, as it is the case in other questions.

Example:

John loves Mary. – Who does Mary love?

We use the auxiliary because we are interested in the object of the sentence.

But: John loves Mary. – Who loves Mary?

We do not use the auxiliary because we are asking about the subject of the sentence.

- We **substitute** the **subject** with **question words who or what** and then **follow the rules of the affirmative sentence forms** in the time clause used in the sentence and add a question mark:

question word + verb + time clause

Example:

He came last year. – Who came last year?

The sentence is in Past Simple, so when asking about the subject, we keep the form of the verb of the affirmative sentence, in this case in irregular form

The conjugation of the verb when asking a question about the subject of the sentence

NOTE

We have to be careful because question words can change the conjugation of the verb.

When we ask a question addressing the subject of the sentence with who or what the **verb is conjugated in the third person form.**

Examples:

They visit their parents every day. – Who visits their parents every day?

We have read many books. – Who has read many books?

I have been visiting this place for ages. – Who has been visiting this place for ages?

Exercise:

Form questions asking about the words in bold.

1. They cook lunch every day.

_____.

2. He has bought a new car

_____.

3. My parents have been living here for a long time.

_____.

4. I brought many presents.

_____.

5. She likes buying new things.

_____.

6. Mary and I drink wine.

_____.

7. He will come back tomorrow.

_____.

Answers:

1. Who cooks lunch every day?
2. Who has bought a new car?
3. Who has been living here for a long time?
4. Who brought many presents?
5. Who likes buying new things?
6. Who drinks wine?
7. Who will come back tomorrow?



Learn more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mh2DGwdJyvA>

<http://www.englishlessonsbrighton.co.uk/forming-subject-questions-without-auxiliaryverbs/> <https://www.slideshare.net/torrepacheco/questions-without-auxiliary>