

A-5: The Interrogative

[Contents \[hide\]](#)**Beginning**[Definition](#)**Examples**[1\) To command](#)[Explanation](#)[2\) To prohibit](#)[3\) To rebuke](#)[4\) To express sarcasm, or astonishment](#)[5\) To warn](#)[6\) To threaten](#)[7\) To deny](#)[8\) To express an impossibility](#)[9\) To express pride](#)[10\)To ask a rhetorical question that is intended to produce an effect rather than an answer:](#)[Further Reading](#)[References](#)**Definition**

The interrogative is used to ask a question. A number of interrogative participles may be used, including hamza, 'alam, 'alan, matā, 'ayna, kayfa, kam, mā, 'annā, hal, 'ayy, man, and 'ayyāna.

For rhetorical purposes, the interrogative may be used for purposes other than asking questions.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)

Examples**1) To command**

هل ستنظف غرفتك؟

Will you clean your room?

Explanation

The intended meaning in this question is a command: "Clean your room!"

2) To prohibit

هل تخاطر بصحبك بالتدخين؟

Do you take a risk with your health by smoking?

3) To rebuke

كيف تعرف أنه لن يكتشف أحد ما فعلته؟

How do you know that no one will find out what you did?

4) To express sarcasm, or astonishment

ما هذا المكان؟

What is this place?

5) To warn

من يتذكر ما حدث آخر مرة اشتكيانا فيها؟

Who remembers what happened the last time we complained?

6) To threaten

هل ترغب مني أن أغضب؟

Do you want me to become angry?

7) To deny

هل اشتريت هذا المنزل الكبير بنفسك؟

Did you buy this house yourself?

8) To express an impossibility

هل تظن أنه يمكنك الهروب من قدرك؟

Do you think you can escape from your destiny?

9) To express pride

هل تعرف أي قبيلة أنتمي؟

Do you know which tribe I belong to?

10)To ask a rhetorical question that is intended to produce an effect rather than an answer:

هل رأيت سعر البنزين اليوم؟

Have you seen the price of petrol today?

Further Reading

- Not all questions require an answer [↗](#)

References

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