

GRAMMAR

# Question forms

**LEVEL**

Intermediate (B1)

**NUMBER**

EN\_B1\_3012G

**LANGUAGE**

English

## Learning outcomes

- I can distinguish between subject and object questions and say when they are used.
- I can correctly form information and 'yes/no' questions in a range of tenses.



# Warm-up

1. **Complete** the activity in the yellow box **in breakout rooms or as a whole class**.
2. **Compare** your answers in the main room afterwards, if using breakout rooms.
3. **Make a note** of any new vocabulary.



Describe the pictures above:

- What do you think is happening in each picture?
- Who might these people be?

# Reading

Read the **interview** below. Who is Annika Boehmer? What's the Craft Café?

## Welcome to the Craft Café!

**W**e spoke to Annika Boehmer, owner of the new Craft Café in Salthill in Galway,

- 5 to discuss the inspiration behind this café with a difference.

**Could you tell us a bit about the café? What makes it special?**

- 10 It's a space where people can come to enjoy a home-made treat, learn something new in one of our workshops run by members of the local community, and hopefully make friends

and connections along the way!

**Where did the idea come from?**

I sell my pastries at the market every Saturday, where I meet a lot of talented craftspeople and artists. When I set up the café, I wanted to get them involved somehow!

**You're not a Galway native. What brought you to the city?**

I came here years ago for a visit and just fell in love with the lively pub scene, the



friendly people, and the fresh Atlantic breeze!

**Have you been busy?**

Yes, I've been amazed by the positive response. We had to start a waiting list for the workshops!





# Match the interview questions and answers

Here's the rest of the interview with Annika.

**Match** the interviewer's questions (1-5) with Annika's answers (a-e).

**1 How often do the workshops take place?**

**a** Actually, yes – kind of! My parents had a café back home in Leiden, and I used to help out.

**2 What kind of workshops are you planning over the next few weeks?**

**b** Twice a month for now, but we'd like to make them more regular!

**3 What are your opening hours?**

**c** I do indeed. And my son James is our barista extraordinaire!

**4 Did you have any previous experience running a café?**

**d** There's one on jewellery-making, and another about identifying local wildlife!

**5 Do you bake all the treats yourself?**

**e** 9-4 Monday to Friday and 11-6 at weekends.

# Review: information and yes/no questions

**Read** the examples and definitions below.

**How long have you lived** in Galway? → About ten years now.

**What do you like** about the city? → The people and the ocean breeze!

**Do you feel** at home here now? → Oh, yes.

- **Information questions**
  - require information in the answer
  - begin with a **question word or phrase**
- **Yes/no questions**
  - require a yes or no answer
  - begin with an **auxiliary verb**



# Questions and auxiliary verbs

1. **Complete** the table below.
2. **Read** the example questions again. **Identify** the information and yes/no questions.

Tense	Auxiliary verb	Example questions
_____ simple	_____/does	_____ they like macarons?
Past simple	_____	When did she arrive?
Present _____	_____/_____/are	What _____ you eating?
Present perfect	_____/_____	_____ you been here long?

# Subject and object questions

**Read** the example questions and definitions below.

**Who** lives here? → **John** (lives here).

**What** made that noise? → **The cat** (made that noise).

**What** does she do for a living? → She's **an architect**.

**Where** did you go last night? → I went **to the cinema**.

- **Subject questions**

- ask for information about the subject

- begin with *who* or *what*

- don't use an auxiliary verb in the present and past simple

- **Object questions**

- ask for information about the object

- begin with a *wh*-word

- use an auxiliary verb in the present and past simple







# Match the question to the definition

Read over the questions and definitions. Match a question (1-6) with a definition (a-f).

1 *What brought you to the city?*

a A yes/no question in the present perfect tense

2 *Could you tell us a bit about the café?*

b A subject question in the present simple

3 *Have you been busy?*

c A question with a verb and preposition

4 *What kind of workshops are you planning over the next few months?*

d A question with a modal verb

5 *What makes your café special?*

e A subject question in the past simple

6 *Where did the idea come from?*

f An information question in the present continuous tense

# Unscramble the questions

**Unscramble** the questions below.

1 she – what – like – about – best – city – does – the



What does she like best about the city?

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2 biscuits – who – these – made



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---

3 kind – of – trip – what – planning – you – are



---

---

4 lately – you – busy – been – have



---

---

5 tell – me – you – could – bit – your – job – about – a



---

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6 inspiration – from – you – get – where – do – your



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# Practise forming questions

1. **Choose** one of the people below.
2. **Write down** at least three questions you could ask them about what they do.
3. **Share** your questions with the class.



**Music  
journalist**



**Firefighter**



**CEO**



**Politician**



**Activist**

*Have you always wanted to be....?*

*When did you start...?*



# Interview a member of your community

Complete the activity in the yellow box.



**Imagine** you are interviewing someone from your community for your local newspaper.

**Prepare some questions** to ask them.

Here are some ideas:

- The owner of a new business
- The oldest person on your street
- Someone who has just moved to the area
- A local celebrity





# End of the lesson

Idiom

***Out of the question***

**Meaning:** To say that something isn't an option or isn't possible

**Example:** You want a pony for Christmas? I'm sorry, but that's out of the question!



# Additional practice



# True/false



Read the **statements** below about different question forms. Are they **true** or **false**?

		True	False
1	Subject questions don't use an auxiliary verb in the present and past simple.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	All questions need an auxiliary verb in English.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Information questions do not begin with a question word or phrase.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Subject questions do not begin <i>who</i> or <i>what</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Yes/no questions begin with an auxiliary verb.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





# Fill in the gaps with the options

**Complete** the sentences with the words in the red box.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ you tell me more about your new job? \_\_\_\_\_  
did you start?
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ you have to interview for the position? \_\_\_\_\_  
questions did they ask?
- 3 Where \_\_\_\_\_ the main office? How \_\_\_\_\_ you get to  
work?
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ your colleagues friendly? \_\_\_\_\_ I going to meet  
them soon?
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ the job get stressful? \_\_\_\_\_ do you go to relax  
after work?

could  
does  
what  
is  
are  
did  
where  
am  
do  
when



# Free practice

**Look at** the famous people below. Who would you **most like to interview**? What would you ask?

1

Meryl Streep

4

Serena Williams

2

Nelson Mandela

5

Neil Armstrong

3

Bob Dylan

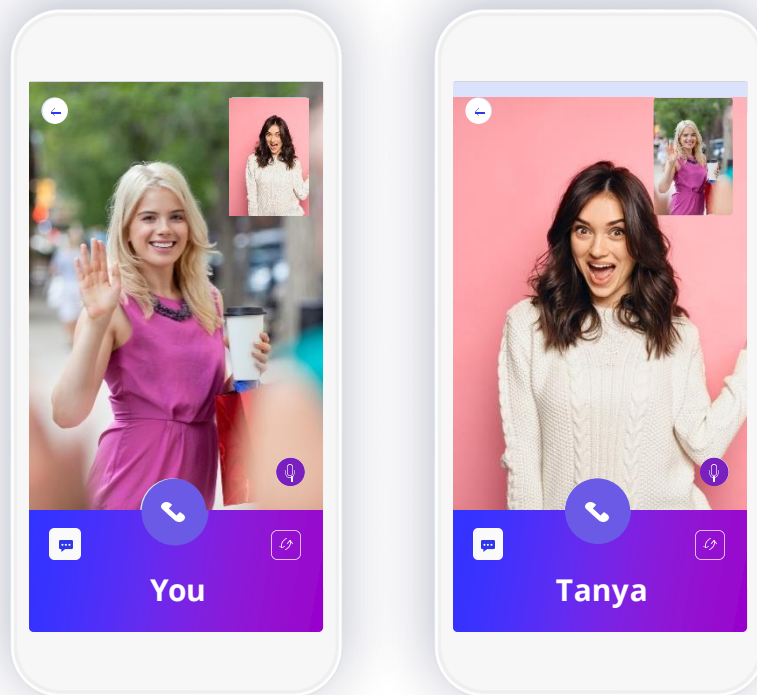
6

Michelle Obama

1. Use a range of subject and objection questions.
2. Ask information questions.
3. If you do not know any of the people, ask your teacher yes/or no questions to learn about them.



# Role play

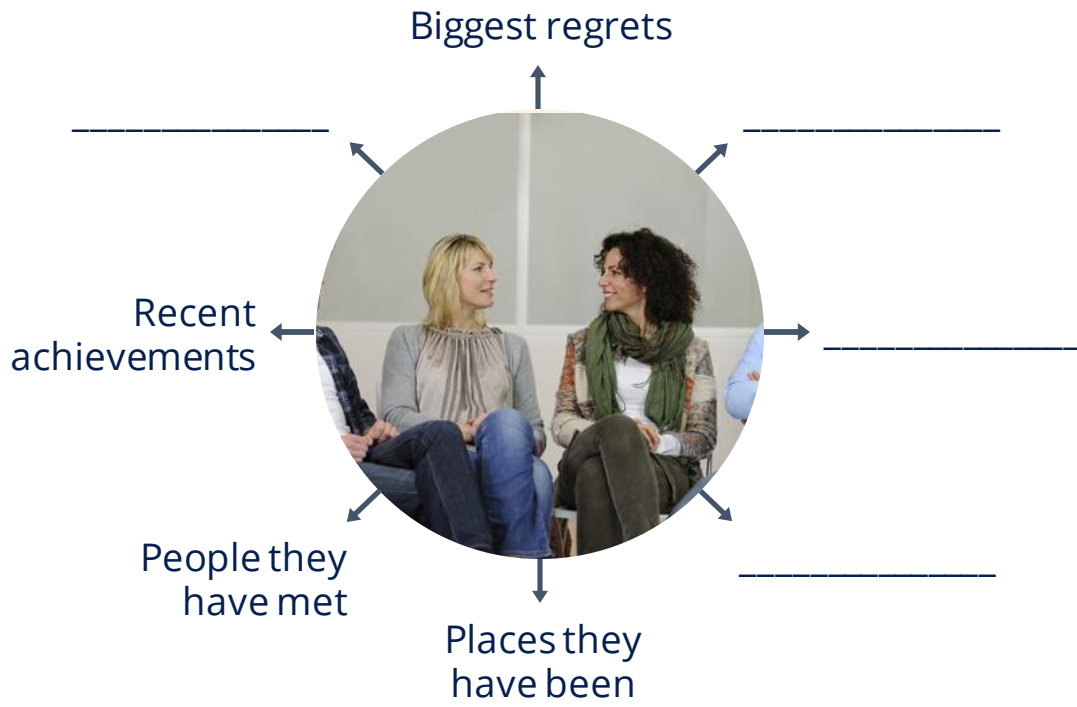


- You have organised a video call with a friend you have not seen for a long time. What do you want to know about their life at the moment? What questions will you ask?
- Take turns asking and answering the questions.



# Interview questions

**Plan an interview** with someone you **admire**. They could be a **famous person** or someone **in your life**. Take some time to think about your questions. You can use the examples.





# Answer key

**P.5:** 1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (e) 4. (a) 5. (c)

**P.7:**

Row 1: Present simple; do; Do

Row 2. did

Row 3: Present continuous; am/is; are

Row 4: have/has; Have

**P.9:** 1. (e) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (f) 5. (b) 6. (c)

**P.10:** 2. Who made these biscuits? 3. What kind of trip are you planning? 4. Have you been busy lately? 5. Could you tell me a bit about your job? 6. Where do you get your information from?

**P.16:** 1. true 2. false 3. false 4. false 5. true

**P.17:** 1. could; when 2. did; what 3. is; do 4. are; am 5. does; where



# Summary

## Subject questions

- Ask for information about the subject
- Begin with *who* or *what*
- Don't use an auxiliary verb in the present and past simple

## Object questions

- Ask information about the object
- Begin with a *wh*-word
- Use an auxiliary verb in the present and past simple

## Subject question examples

- *Who lives here?*
- *Who rung the doorbell?*
- *Who collected my package?*

## Object question examples

- *What did the estate agent say?*
- *What does this flat cost per month?*
- *When did you move in?*



# Vocabulary

home-made

workshop

craftsperson

interview

lively

to interview





## Notes

