

Reference 4.2 Interrogatives and Questions

Interrogatives: Interrogatives are question words that look for specific information in an interrogation (when someone is asking a question).

1. Quién	1. Who
2. Quiénes	2. Who (plural)
3. Qué	3. What
4. Cuándo	4. When
5. Dónde	5. Where
6. Por qué	6. Why
7. Cómo	7. How
8. Cuál	8. Which
9. Cuáles	9. Which (plural)
10. Cuánto	10. How much
11. Cuántos	11. How many

Accent Marks: All interrogatives receive an accent mark when you are forming a question; this is to provide a “tilt” in your voice when you form a question.

Formation of a Question

- Questions that do **not** contain an interrogative are considered “yes” and “no” questions, even in English.
 - **Example:**
 - **Question:** Do you play the saxophone?
 - **Response:** Yes, I play the saxophone.
 - **Response:** No, I do not play the saxophone.
 - **Note:** The question did **not** contain an interrogative.
- **Inverted Subject Pronouns:** When you are creating a question in Spanish, you do not use the verb “do” as a helping verb to form the question like English. Instead, you invert your subject and your verb. This means that the verb will precede (go before) the subject.
 - **Example:**
 - **Question:** ¿Hablas tú el español?
 - **Response:** Sí, yo hablo el español.
 - **Response:** No, yo no hablo el español.
 - **Example:**
 - **Question:** ¿Dibujan ellos bien?
 - **Response:** Sí, ellos dibujan bien.
 - **Response:** No, ellos no dibujan bien.
 - **Note:** In the above examples, the verb precedes the subject. In the responses, the subject precedes the verb.

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- **Questions with Interrogatives:** Questions with interrogatives are formed the same way as “yes” or “no” questions. With these questions, we will place the interrogative at the beginning.
 - **Example:**
 - **Question:** ¿Cuándo practicas tú el vocabulario?
 - **Response:** Yo practico el vocabulario a las tres.
 - **Example:**
 - **Question:** ¿Dónde practicas tú el vocabulario?
 - **Response:** Yo practico el vocabulario en mi dormitorio.

Reciprocal Response

Reciprocal Response: The formation of how you would naturally answer a question. (This applies to Spanish and English.)

It is important to know whom or what a question is directed towards in order to answer.

If a question is asked in:

First Person

Second Person

Third Person

It will be responded in:

Second Person

First Person

Third Person

- **Singular** subjects in a **question** always remain **singular** in the **answer**.
- **Plural** subjects in a **question** always remain **plural** in the **answer**.

Examples:

Question

1. How are you? (2nd person singular)
2. How do I look? (1st person singular)
3. Does she work? (3rd person singular)
4. Do you all need help? (2nd person plural)
5. Do they draw well? (3rd person plural)

Response

1. I am well. (1st person singular)
2. You look terrible. (2nd person singular)
3. Yes, she works. (3rd person singular)
4. Yes, we need help. (1st person plural)
5. Do they draw well? (3rd person plural)
5. No, they do not draw well. (3rd person plural)