

# Wh- questions; Subject and object questions

Adapted from: Elementary Language Practice by Michael Vince

## Explanations

### Wh- questions

We use:

who with people  
what with things  
when with time  
where with places

*Who is that? It's Jack.*

*What are you looking for?*

*A pen. When are you leaving? At*

*6.00. Where do you live?*

*In that house.*

Present simple

*When do you usually get up?*

Present continuous

*What are you doing?*

Present perfect

Past simple

*Why have you stopped? How*

Past continuous

*did you feel?*

Future

*Where were you going?*

*Who are you going to meet?*

*When will you come home?*

*Why are you leaving?*

### Short answers

*When do you usually get up?*

*At 7.30.*

*What are you doing?*

*Writing a letter.*

*Why have you come?*

*To give you a present.*

*How did you feel?*

*Terrible.*

*Where were you going?*

*Home.*

### Subject and Object questions

We use *What* and *Who* to ask questions about the subject or the object. Questions about the subject do not use the auxiliary *do* (*does, did*).

**Subject**

**Verb**

**Object**

*Cats*

*eat*

*fish*

Subject question:

**What eats fish?**

**Cats eat fish.**

Object question:

**What do cats eat?**

**Cats eat fish.**

### Examples

#### • Subject questions

**What** makes people happy?

**Love** makes people happy! **Love** does.

**Who** sits in this seat?

**Helen** sits in this seat./**Helen** does.

#### • Object questions.

**What** do you wear in winter? I wear **an overcoat**. **An overcoat**.

**What** are you reading?

I'm reading **'Oliver Twist'**. **Oliver Twist'**.

### Careful!

**When the main verb is *be*, or the tense is past continuous or present continuous, *do* is not used.**