1A

question formation

1 **Should we** buy her a present? How long **have you** been waiting? How many children **does your sister** have? (1) 2))
2 Why **didn't you** like the film? **Isn't this** a beautiful place?
3 **What** are they talking **about**? **Who** does this bag belong to?
4 **Who lives** in that house? **How many people follow** you on Twitter?

1 We make questions with modal verbs and with tenses where there is an auxiliary verb (*be*, *have*, etc.) by inverting the subject and the modal / auxiliary verb. With the present and past simple, we add the auxiliary verb *do* / *does* or *did* before the subject.
2 We often use negative questions to show surprise or when we expect somebody to agree with us.
3 If a verb is followed by a preposition, the preposition comes at the end of the question, not at the beginning NOT ~~*About what are you talking?*~~
   • We often just use the question word and the preposition, e.g. A *I'm thinking.* B *What about?*
4 When *who* / *what* / *which*, etc. is the **subject** of the question, we don't use *do* / *did*, e.g. *Who wrote this?* NOT ~~*Who did write this?*~~

indirect questions

Could you tell me **what time the shop next door opens**? Do you know **if (whether) Mark's coming to the meeting**? (1) 3))

We use indirect questions when we want to ask a question in a more polite way, and begin with *Can* / *Could you tell me...?* or when we introduce a question with, e.g. *Do you know...?* *Do you remember...?*

Compare
What time does the shop next door open? (direct question), and *Could you tell me what time the shop next door opens?* (indirect question)

- In indirect questions the order is subject + verb. *Can you tell me where it is?* NOT ~~*Can you tell me where is it?*~~
- We don't use *do* / *did* in the second part of the question. *Do you know where he lives?* NOT ~~*where does he live.*~~
- You can use *if* or *whether* in questions without a question word (*What*, *How many*, etc.) and after *Can you tell me*, *Do you know*, etc.

Other expressions followed by the word order of indirect questions
The word order of indirect questions is used after:
I wonder..., e.g. ***I wonder*** *why they didn't come.*
I'm not sure..., e.g. ***I'm not sure*** *what time it starts.*
I can't remember..., e.g. ***I can't remember*** *where I left my phone.*
I want to know..., e.g. ***I want to know*** *what time you're coming home.*
Do you have any idea...?, e.g. ***Do you have any idea*** *if (whether) James is on holiday this week?*

a Order the words to make questions.



tomorrow can't Why come you ?
Why can't you come tomorrow?

1 I Should her tell I feel how ?
2 friend known long best have How you your ?
3 tell when you train next leaves the Could me ?
4 housework family in Who your the does ?
5 are What about you thinking ?
6 at don't weekend you What doing the like ?
7 music to does What Jane kind like listening of ?
8 you time film know finishes Do what the ?
9 class students yesterday to many came How ?
10 you remember is where Do the restaurant ?

b Complete the questions with the words in brackets.

Where *did you go* on holiday last year? (you / go)
1 How often _____ exercise? (you / usually do)
2 Who _____ *Oliver Twist*? (write)
3 Could you tell me how much _____? (this book / cost)
4 I can't remember where _____ my car this morning. (I / park)
5 _____ your trip to Paris last weekend? (you / enjoy)
6 What kind of work _____? (your sister / do)
7 Who _____ the last biscuit? (eat)
8 Do you know what time _____ on a Saturday? (the swimming pool / open)
9 _____ the present you gave her? (your sister / not like)
10 _____ play your music so loud? I can't concentrate. (you / have to)

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