

- Can I ask you a question?
- Have the police been to your home?
- Do they want to interview your wife?
- What have they been looking for?



- Who telephoned the newspapers?
- Which secretary spoke to journalists?
- How long has the Prime Minister known?

## Presentation

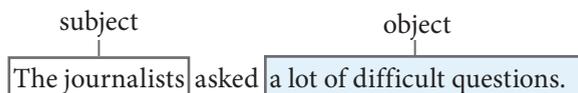
### Yes/No questions

To ask questions requiring the answer 'yes' or 'no', you use an auxiliary verb (e.g. *be, do, have, can*) followed by the subject:

- Can I ask you a question? Are you going to resign?*
- Have the police been to your home?*
- Do they want to interview your wife?*

### Subject and object questions

You can ask questions about the subject or the object of a verb using *what, who, which, whose, how much* and *how many*.



A subject question asks about the subject of the verb:

**Who** asked the questions? *The journalists.*

An object question asks about the object of the verb:

**What** did the journalists ask? *A lot of difficult questions.*

### Subject questions

In subject questions, the question word (*who, what, how many journalists*) is the subject of the verb. The verb follows the question word and there is no other pronoun.

**How many journalists** came to interview the minister? (don't say *How many journalists they came to interview the minister?*)

You do not normally use the auxiliary verbs *do, does* or *did* in subject questions. (don't say *How many journalists did come to interview the minister?*)

### Object questions

In an object question you need a question word, an auxiliary verb and a subject. The auxiliary verb comes before the subject. Use the auxiliary verbs *do, does, did* with the present simple and the past simple:

- What did the journalists ask?*
- How much did the Prime Minister know?*

### Question expressions

As well as single question words such as *what, when, who, where, which, how*, you can also use multi-word expressions such as *what time, what sort, what type, what kind, how much, how many, how well, how big*:

- What time are you giving the press conference?*
- What sort/type/kind of career do you want?*
- How much does the Prime Minister know?*

### Questions with like

Use questions with *What ... like?* to ask for a description:

- What's he like?* (kind and friendly)
- What does she look like?* (short and blonde with glasses)

### Questions with prepositions

In everyday speech, you put prepositions at the end of the question:

- What were they looking for?*
- With questions about time, you don't need the preposition *at*.
- What time are you giving a press conference at?*

