

Al-Mustaqbal University
College of Engineering &
Technology
Biomedical Engineering



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Lecturer: Assist Prof. Muslim Mohammed

Email: muslim.mohammed@uomus.edu.iq

Lecture No.:- 7

Lecture Title: [Unit Eleven, Tell me about it.]



11

Tell me about it!

Indirect questions • Question tags • The body • Informal English

TEST YOUR GRAMMAR

- 1 All of these sentences are correct. Why is there no *does* in sentences 2 and 3?
- Where does she live?
 - I know where she lives.
 - Can you tell me where she lives?

- 2 Choose the correct question tag.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 It's a beautiful day, | did he? |
| 2 You like learning English, | isn't it? |
| 3 You've been to Australia, | didn't they? |
| 4 Henry didn't say that, | don't you? |
| 5 They had a good time, | haven't you? |

It's a beautiful day.



A STRANGER IN TOWN

Indirect questions

- 1 **T 11.1** Flavia has just checked into her hotel in Toronto. Look at the information she wants, then listen to the conversation. Complete her sentences.

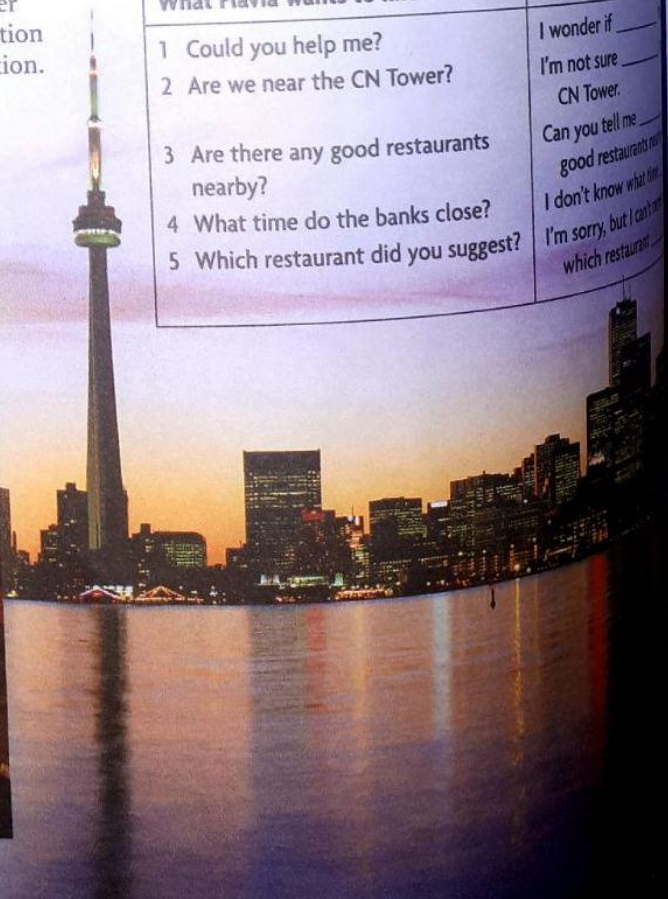


What Flavia wants to know

- Could you help me?
- Are we near the CN Tower?
- Are there any good restaurants nearby?
- What time do the banks close?
- Which restaurant did you suggest?

What Flavia says

I wonder if _____
 I'm not sure _____
 CN Tower.
 Can you tell me _____
 good restaurants nearby?
 I don't know what time _____
 I'm sorry, but I can't remember _____
 which restaurant _____



GRAMMAR SPOT

- 1 Look at what Flavia says. These are indirect questions. How does the word order change?
- 2 What happens to *do/does/did* in indirect questions?
- 3 When do we use *if* in indirect questions?

▶▶ Grammar Reference 11.1 p149

2 Read tapescript 11.1 on p131 and practise the conversation. Then close your books and do it again.

3 Here is some more information that Flavia wants. Use the prompts to ask indirect questions.

- 1 What's the population of the city?
(*Do you know ... ?*)
- 2 Is there an underground?
(*Could you tell me ... ?*)
- 3 Where are the best shops?
(*Can you tell me ... ?*)
- 4 Where can I go for a run in the mornings?
(*Do you happen to know ... ?*)
- 5 Is there an art gallery near here?
(*Do you have any idea ... ?*)
- 6 What do people do in the evening?
(*I wonder ...*)

4 Work with a partner. Ask and answer similar indirect questions about a city that you know well.

PRACTICE

Asking polite questions

1 Match a word in A with a line in B and a line in C.

A	B	C
What	newspaper	times have you been on a plane?
How	football team	do you support?
Which	long	music do you like?
	far	do you read?
	kind of	is it to the airport from here?
	many	time do you spend watching TV?
	much	does it take you to get ready in the morning?

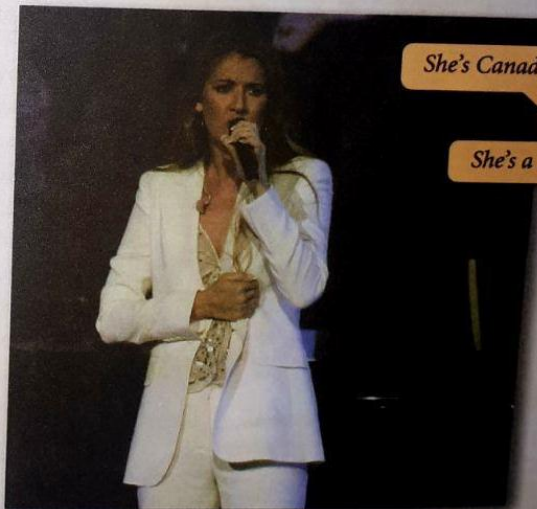
2 Work with a partner. Ask and answer indirect questions using the ideas in exercise 1.

Could you tell me ... ?

Would you mind telling me ... ?

Finding out about Celine Dion

3 What do you know Celine Dion?



4 Ask about Celine Dion using these phrases and the prompts 1–8.

I wonder ...

I have no idea ...

I'd like to know ...

Does anybody know ...

- 1 where/born
- 2 how many/brothers and sisters
- 3 how old/when first performed in public
- 4 ever win any awards
- 5 married
- 6 how many children/have

I wonder where she was born.

5 Work with a partner.

Student A Look at p155.

Student B Look at p156.

WE LIKE ANIMALS, DON'T WE?

Question tags

- 1 **T 11.2** Listen to Gabriella, aged 4, talking to Karen, her mother. Underline the question tags.

G Mummy?
 K Yes, Gaby?
 G I've got ten fingers, haven't I?
 K Yes, that's right, sweetie. Ten pretty little fingers.
 G And Daddy didn't go to work this morning, did he?
 K No, it's a holiday. He's working in the garden today.
 G And we like animals, don't we, Mummy?
 K Yes, we do. Especially our cats, Sammy and Teddy.
 G Can I have a biscuit now, Mummy?

- T 11.2** Listen again. Does Gabriella's intonation go up or down on the question tags?



- 2 Complete the conversation between Karen and her assistant with a question tag from the box.

didn't I? isn't it? am I? haven't I?

K Now, what's happening today? I've got a meeting this afternoon, _____?

A Yes, that's right. With Henry and Tom.

K And the meeting's here, _____?

A No, it isn't. It's in Tom's office at 3 o'clock.

K Oh! I'm not having lunch with anyone, _____?

A No, you're free for lunch.

K Phew! And I signed all my letters, _____?

A No, you didn't, actually. They're on your desk waiting for you.

K OK. I'll do them now. Thanks a lot.

- T 11.3** Listen and check. Does Karen's intonation go up or down on the question tags?

GRAMMAR SPOT

- 1 Which speaker, Gabriella or Karen, uses question tags to mean . . . ?

- I'm not sure, so I'm checking.
- Talk to me, I want to have a conversation with you.

- 2 How do we form question tags?

▶▶ Grammar Reference 11.2 p149

- 3 Practise the conversations with a partner.

PRACTICE

Question tags and intonation

1 Look at the sentences and write the question tags.

1 It isn't very warm today, _____?	↗
2 You can cook, _____?	
3 You've got a CD player, _____?	
4 Mary's very clever, _____?	
5 There are a lot of people here, _____?	
6 The film wasn't very good, _____?	
7 I'm a silly person, _____?	
8 You aren't going out dressed like that, _____?	

T 11.4 Listen and check. Write ↗ if the question tag goes up and ↘ if it goes down.

2 Match a response with a sentence in exercise 1.

- ☒ Yes. She's extremely bright.
☐ Believe it or not, I haven't. I've got a cassette player, though.
☐ Why? What's wrong with my clothes? I thought I looked really cool.
☐ No, it's freezing.
☐ No, you're not. Everybody makes mistakes.
☐ Me? No! I can't even boil an egg.
☐ I know! It's absolutely packed. I can't move!
☐ It was terrible! The worst I've seen in ages.

T 11.5 Listen and check. Practise the conversations with a partner.

Conversations

3 Add three question tags to the conversation below. Do they go up or down?

- A It's so beautiful.
 B What is?
 A The view. That's the CN Tower.
 B What?
 A The CN Tower.
 B The CN Tower isn't that tall.
 A Oh yes, it is. It's the tallest building in Toronto.



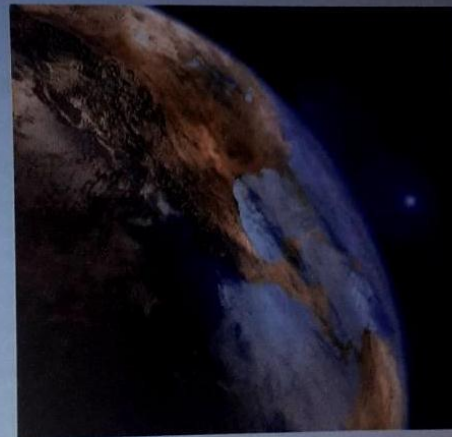
T 11.6 Listen and compare.

4 Look at p156. Choose one of the conversations and add question tags. Learn it by heart, and act it out for the rest of the class.

T 11.7 Listen and compare.

READING AND SPEAKING

How well do you know your world?



1 Do you know the answers to these questions?

- What are the Earth's oldest living things?
- What man-made things on Earth can be seen from space?
- What is the most terrible natural disaster to have hit the Earth?
- Why do women live longer than men?
- Why isn't there a row 13 on aeroplanes?
- Why do they drive on the left in Britain and on the right in other countries?
- How many new words enter the English language every year?

2 Put one of these lines before each question in exercise 1. What is true for you?

I think I know what/why ... I'm not sure ...
 I think ... I have no idea ...
 I don't know ... I wonder ...

I think I know why women live longer than men. It's because ...

I have no idea what the Earth's oldest living things are.

Discuss your ideas as a class.
 Which question interests you the most?
 Read the answers to the questions on pages 90 and 91. How much did you already know?

you know your world?

You ask ... we answer!

4Q Why do women live longer than men?

A Women generally live about six years longer than men. Evidence suggests that boys are the weaker sex at birth, which means that more die in infancy. Men also have a greater risk of heart disease than women, and they have heart attacks earlier in life. Men smoke more than women, and their behaviour is generally more aggressive, particularly when driving, so they are more likely to die in accidents. Also, men are more often in dangerous occupations, such as construction work.

Historically, women died in childbirth and men in wars. So unmarried women and philosophers often lived to great ages. Now childbearing is less risky and there are fewer wars. ☐



6Q Why do they drive on the left in Britain and on the right in other countries?

A The reason for this goes back to the days when people travelled by horse. Most people are right handed, and thus the left is the natural side to ride on if you are on horseback and you need your right hand to hold a sword in case of trouble. So why didn't the rest of the world do the same? Because of Napoleon Bonaparte. He insisted that his armies marched on the right, and as he marched through Europe, he imposed this rule wherever he went. In the twentieth century Adolf Hitler did the same. Signs reading 'Rechts fahren' were put up whenever he took over a country.

The question suggests that only the British drive on the left, but in fact, out of 193 countries in the world, there are about 50 that drive on the left, including Japan. ☐



5Q Why isn't there a row 13 on aeroplanes?

A In many countries, the number 13 is considered to be very unlucky. In France, there is never a house with the number 13. In the United States, modern high-rise buildings label the floor that follows 12 as 14.

Where did this fear of a number come from? The idea goes back at least to Norse mythology in ancient times. There was a banquet with 12 guests. Loki, who was evil, decided to join them without being invited. In the fight that followed, Balder, the son of Odin, was killed.

This story is probably the origin of the idea that 13 people shouldn't sit at the table to eat. ☐



7Q How many words enter the English language every year?

A Unfortunately no list is kept. In France there is the *Académie française* which approves new words, but in England there are only dictionaries. The most authoritative of these is the *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED), but this does not make rules about the language. It simply records the development of English worldwide. It accepts about 4,000 new words (or new uses) every year. The OED has readers in all English-speaking parts of the world, who record repeated uses of new words, including numerous technical terms. Traditionally, a word had to be used five times, in five different places, over five years before it could go into the dictionary. However, now in the 21st century, with new technology, new words and uses are included much more quickly. For example something like 'text messaging' got in sooner because it became so widely used so quickly. ☐

