

REPORTED SPEECH III: Questions & Suggestions

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QUESTIONS

Remember there are two types of questions:

- ▶ **Yes / No questions:** the answer is always 'yes' or 'no', starting with a verb:
 - 'Do you like football?' 'Yes, I do.'
 - 'Were you at home last night?' 'No, I wasn't.'
- ▶ **Wh questions:** the answer depends on the interrogative pronoun:
 - 'Where did you go?' 'I went to the beach.'
 - 'How often do you play football?' 'I play football once a week.'

Yes-No questions



Do you like English?

As you can see, there are changes as in statements, but we need the verb ASK and include IF. Keep in mind that the word order has a statement structure:

- ▶ 'Do you like football?', he asked me.
He asked me if I liked football.

- ▶ 'Are you at home?', he asked me. 'No, I'm not', I answered.
He asked me *if I was* at home and I answered *I was not*.

Wh- questions

In these cases, there is also a shift in word order and tenses also change. However, IF is substituted by the interrogative pronoun given. Have a look at these examples:

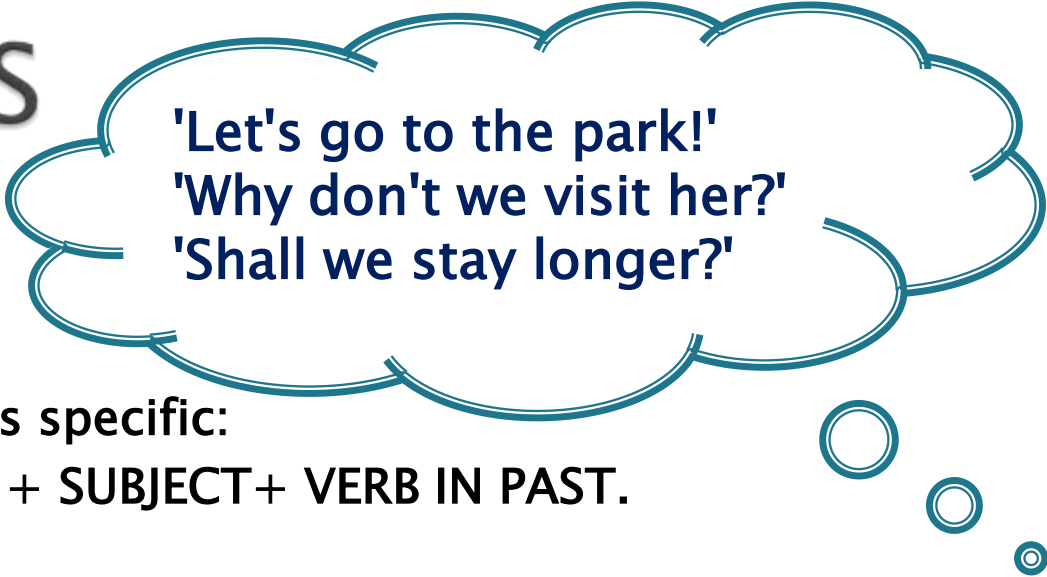
'Where are you going?', he asked me.

He asked me where I was going



What time is it?

SUGGESTIONS



'Let's go to the park!'
'Why don't we visit her?'
'Shall we stay longer?'

In these cases, the structure is specific:

SUBJECT + SUGGESTED THAT + SUBJECT+ VERB IN PAST.

- ▶ 'Let's go to the park!'
He suggested that we went to the park.
- ▶ 'Why don't we visit her?'
She suggested that we visited her.
- ▶ 'Shall we stay longer?'
He suggested that we stayed longer.