Types of questions

1. What is a Question?

A question is a sentence that seeks an answer for information collection, tests, and research. The art of asking the right questions helps gaining deep insights, make informed decisions, and develop effective solutions. To know how to ask good questions, understand the basic question types.

2. Types of questions:

A. Yes / No questions: Most of them start with an auxiliary verb and expect one answer: Yes or No.

Examples:

- Can you help me? Yes, I can./ No, I can't.
- Are you from The United States? Yes, I am. / No, I am not.
- Did you go to America? Yes, I did./ No, I didn't
- **B. Wh-Questions:** As you can understand from its name, most of them start with a question word such as: what / Where / Why / Who / Whose / When / Which.

Examples:

- When did you come? I came yesterday
- Whose book is this? This is my book

Note:

There are other question words that don't start with "wh" as well: How / how many / how often / how far / how much / how long / how old etc.

Examples:

How much is this? How many children do you have?

C. Tag questions (disjunctive questions or tail questions): they are mini-questions asked

at the end of the statement to confirm it.

Examples:

- You like her, don't you?
- She is a doctor, isn't she?
- D. Choice Questions: We use choice questions when we offer choices.

Examples:

- Would like a house or a flat?
- Do you hang out with your sisters or you friends?
- E. Hypothetical Questions: We ask hypothetical questions to have a general idea of a certain

situation (like a questionnaire).

Examples:

- What would you do if you won the lottery?
- ♦ If you had a superpower, what would it be?
- F. Embedded questions (indirect questions): We use them in reported speech or in polite questions.

Examples:

- She asked me if she could borrow my dictionary.
- \diamond She asked me where the nearest train station was.

Exercise: identify the type of the question

- → You haven't seen this film, have you? ...
- \rightarrow Where do they live?
- → Does she like ice cream or sweets?
- → She said the test was difficult
- \rightarrow Who opened the door? They could hear me, couldn't they? ...
- \rightarrow If you won the lottery, what would you do with the money?
- \rightarrow Whom did you see?
- \rightarrow I don't need to finish this today, do I? ...
- → Which colour do you want?
- \rightarrow I'm never on time, am I?
- \rightarrow I asked her what her plans were