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Forming Indirect Questions

Medium | A2 | Elementary | Pre-intermediate | Questions | Indirect speech | English Grammar Basics

1. Help the confused tourist ask for directions by choosing the correct phrase for each gap.

"Excuse me, could you tell me where _____?"

"I also wonder why _____ so early yesterday."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** the museum is
- **B)** is the museum
- **C)** does the museum

Blank 2

- **A)** it closed
- **B)** did it close
- **C)** does it close

2. Complete the detective's frustrating interview by selecting the correct phrase for each gap.

The detective sighed, rubbing his temples. "Let's try this again. Can you explain how _____?"

The witness shrugged, sipping his coffee. "I'm not sure. I also don't know where _____ after the basketball game ended."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** *the giant chicken escaped*
- **B)** did the giant chicken escape
- **C)** the giant chicken did escape

Blank 2

- **A)** *he went*
- **B)** did he go
- **C)** went he

3. Choose the phrase that best completes the dinner host's anxious thought.

I'm not entirely sure _____ lactose intolerant.

Select one.

- **A)** is the Martian
- **B)** whether is the Martian
- **C)** if the Martian is
- **D)** does the Martian be

4. Read the passive-aggressive notes left in the office kitchen. Choose the grammatically correct option for each blank.

Someone left a bright pink sticky note on the office fridge:
"I would like to know _____ my expensive turkey sandwich."

Later that afternoon, a mysterious reply appeared below it:
"I have no idea _____ delicious, but the boss looked very happy while chewing!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** *whether anyone ate*
- **B)** did anyone eat
- **C)** whether did anyone eat

Blank 2

- **A)** *if it was*
- **B)** was it
- **C)** if was it

5. A confused time traveler is trying to ask for information without drawing too much attention. Help them blend in! Select ALL the options that correctly apply the rules for indirect questions.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Could you tell me whether this is the year 2024?
- **B)** I need to find out if there are any flying cars yet.
- **C)** Do you know is this the year 2024?
- **D)** I wonder if did the timeline change.

6. Help the confused tourist ask a polite question without sounding too demanding. Choose the correct phrase to complete the sentence.

"Excuse me, could you tell me where _____?"

Select one.

- **A)** is the giant cheese wheel
- **B)** the giant cheese wheel is
- **C)** does the giant cheese wheel be
- **D)** the giant cheese wheel it is

7. Help the frustrated detective complete his case notes by choosing the correct phrase for each gap.

"I asked the witness exactly how large _____."

"He completely refused to tell me where _____."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** the ship was
- **B)** was the ship
- **C)** did the ship

Blank 2

- **A)** the aliens went
- **B)** did the aliens go
- **C)** went the aliens

8. Review a panicked college student's email drafts to their professor regarding a missing assignment. Select ALL the options that use correct indirect question structure and punctuation!

Select all that apply.

- **A)** I am writing to ask if you received my essay.
- **B)** Do you happen to know where my attachment went?
- **C)** I would like to know why my grade is a zero.
- **D)** I am writing to ask did you receive my essay?
- **E)** Do you happen to know where did my attachment go?

9. Complete the detective's sophisticated line of questioning. Select the grammatically correct option.

"I need to know exactly how _____ into the vault."

Select one.

- **A)** did the poodle get
- **B)** the poodle got
- **C)** got the poodle
- **D)** the poodle did get

10. Complete the nosy coworker's whispered gossip by choosing the correct word for each blank.

"I asked the new guy _____ he ate the last chocolate donut."

"I also need to find out why _____ acting so suspiciously in the breakroom."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** whether
- **B)** that
- **C)** unless

Blank 2

- **A)** he was
- **B)** was he
- **C)** did he

11. Help the nosy neighbor politely interrogate the mail carrier about the new resident. Select ALL the sentences that are grammatically correct indirect questions!

Select all that apply.

- **A)** I was wondering what he is building back there.
- **B)** Do you know why he bought so much lumber?
- **C)** Can you tell me what is he building back there?
- **D)** I'd like to know why did he buy so much lumber.

12. Help the lost tourist complete his conversation by selecting the correct phrase for each gap.

"Excuse me," the tourist said, holding a map upside down. "Do you know where _____?"

The local smiled kindly. "I can help! But first, can you tell me why _____ the map upside down?"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** *the nearest restroom is*
- **B)** is the nearest restroom
- **C)** does the nearest restroom be

Blank 2

- **A)** *you are holding*
- **B)** are you holding
- **C)** do you hold