

Question Mark

Question Mark is one of the punctuation marks that we place at the end of a sentence. It is mainly used for questions or queries.

To use this mark effectively, here's a brief guide for you.

- Question mark to end a direct question

A direct question is what we normally ask our friends, family, and acquaintances.

Examples:

1. How are you?
2. Where will you go on Sunday?
3. Have you ever been to a museum?
4. Should we pay them a visit?

Note: A question mark is not needed for *indirect questions*.

Examples:

1. The student asked his professor about the lesson tomorrow.
2. I wonder if the school would provide us a new classroom.
3. I wonder if she had a date.
4. The family asked their neighbor about the new policy implemented in their town.

- Question mark for tag questions

Tag questions refer to a declarative statement which has been turned into a question through the addition of an interrogative fragment.

Examples:

1. He is our President, isn't he?
2. The kids are enjoying the view, aren't they?
3. We should go hiking next time, shouldn't we?
4. The school officers are not going to accept our proposals, are they?

- Question Mark for quotations

When a quoted phrase or sentence ends with a question, the mark should be within or inside the quotation marks. If the quotation is positioned in mid-sentence, the question mark replaces the comma.

Examples:

1. The teacher usually says, “Do you want to pass this subject or not?”
2. "Will you be my friend?" Jerome asked.
3. “Who is afraid of the manager?” the secretary asked us yesterday.
4. My friend came here yesterday and said this, “Do you want to watch a movie with me next week?”

EXERCISES

- Question mark to end a direct question

A direct question is what we normally ask our friends, family, and acquaintances.

Place a question mark if the sentence requires it.

1. She asked me to visit the city.
2. Will you be here in the morning.
3. Don't ask him about the events.
4. The crown prince wondered why the court lady ran away.
5. How have you been since you arrived here.
6. Where did you buy the gamepads?

- Question mark for tag questions

Tag questions refer to a declarative statement which has been turned into a question through the addition of an interrogative fragment.

Place appropriate tag questions at the end of the sentences below.

1. The kid played the dice with his friends.
2. That lady works at the office near my shop.
3. We will be buying supplies soon.
4. He cannot go to the mall without his sister.
5. The manager refused to talk.
6. I should make a new rule in this class.

- Question Mark for quotations

When a quoted phrase or sentence ends with a question, the mark should be within or inside the quotation marks. If the quotation is positioned in the mid-sentence, the question mark replaces the comma.

Determine whether the question mark is properly placed or not in the following sentences. Write YES or NO.

1. The office asked me a question, “Did you go to the office?”
2. “Should we go there?” my mother asked me.
3. “Why don’t we visit our relative next Tuesday”? my mum asked.
4. My grandfather often asked this question before, “Will you take care of this farm”?
5. The peddler who was here yesterday asked me an interesting question, “Would you like to become my business partner?”
6. “Should we start?” my boss said.

ANSWER KEY

- Question mark to end a direct question

A direct question is what we normally ask our friends, family, and acquaintances.

Place a question mark if the sentence requires it.

Answer:

1. She asked me to visit the city.
2. Will you be here in the morning?
3. Don't ask him about the events.
4. The crown prince wondered why the court lady ran away.
5. How have you been since you arrived here?
6. Where did you buy the gamepads?

- Question mark for tag questions

Tag questions refer to a declarative statement which has been turned into a question through the addition of an interrogative fragment.

Place appropriate tag questions at the end of the sentences below.

Answer:

1. The kid played the dice with his friends, didn't he?
2. That lady works at the office near my shop, doesn't she?
3. We will be buying supplies soon, won't we?
4. He cannot go to the mall without his sister, can he?
5. The manager refused to talk, didn't he/she?
6. I should make a new rule in this class, shouldn't I?

- Question Mark for quotations

When a quoted phrase or sentence ends with a question, the mark should be within or inside the quotation marks. If the quotation is positioned in the mid-sentence, the question mark replaces the comma.

Determine whether the question mark is properly placed or not in the following sentences. Write YES or NO.

Answer:

1. YES
2. YES
3. NO
4. NO
5. YES
6. YES