

What is a Question?

There are four main types of questions:

Interrogative - in English these are called "wh-" questions because most of the interrogative question words begin with "wh-". In Danish, they are called "hv-" questions. Look at the list below and you will see why.

who	hvem
what	hvad
where	hvor
when	hvornår
why	hvorfor
how*	hvordan

Hvem er du?
Who are you?

Hvor er han?
Where is he?

Hvad er det?
What is it?

Hvornår er festen?
When is the party?

Hvordan går det?
How's it going?

Yes/No questions, or **Ja/Nej spørgsmål** in Danish, are simply questions that require a "yes" or "no" answer. In English we begin these questions with "do/does" or "am/is/are."

- Do** you swim quickly?
- Does** she see the fish?
- Don't** the fish get scared of her?
- Are** there many fish?
- Is** she a marine biologist?
- Am** I about to get wet?



In Danish it is a bit simpler: take the main verb and flip it to the beginning of the sentence.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Yes/No Question</u>
Du svømmer hurtigt. <i>You swim quickly.</i>	Svømmer du hurtigt? <i>Swim you quickly?</i> (Do you swim quickly)
Der er mange fisk. <i>There are many fish.</i>	Er der mange fisk? <i>Are there many fish?</i>
Hun ser fisk. <i>She sees fish.</i>	Ser hun fisk? <i>Sees she fish?</i> (Does she see fish?)

*How come it's not spelled "Whow"? I don't no.

Tag Questions are formed by putting a short "tag" word/phrase at the end of a statement:

These glasses are on sale, aren't they?
It's the latest style, isn't it?
You carry a variety of frames, don't you?
That pair on the end will fall, won't it?



In Danish the tag word is usually *ikke*, meaning *not*.

Du kommer fra Frankrig, ikke?
You come from France, don't you?

Han taler engelsk, ikke?
He speaks English, doesn't he?

Hun er nordmand, ikke?
She is (a) Norwegian, isn't she?



'How About' Questions depend on a previous statement, and always begin with "How about..." or "What about" For example: "I am happy. How about you?"

In Danish the phrase is "Hvad med..." (literally: *what with...*)

Jeg fryser. **Hvad med dig?**
I am cold. How about you?

Han kommer fra Grønland. **Hvad med hende?**
He comes from Greenland. What about her?

De taler islandsk. **Hvad med jer?**
They speak Icelandic. How about you guys?

Note that the pronoun following "hvad med..." is always in the object form.

