

QUESTION WORD

QUESTION: <Noun>はどこに

<Noun>はどこですか。

✖✖が is not used because when you're asking someone where <noun> is, the person MUST know where <noun> is. Otherwise, you shouldn't be asking this question.

The main point of the sentence is 何処にありますか。Therefore, は is used.

QUESTION: どこ
で

で is used with
action verbs

どこで昼ご飯を
買いましたか。
Where did you
buy your lunch?

ANSWER:
<Noun>は/が
どこ

<Noun>が/
は<location>
です

<Noun>が/
は<location>
にあります

は/が can be
used when
answering
the question.

QUESTION: 何/なにが

が is used

QUESTION: どの
で "Where"

京都はどこですか。Where is Kyoto?

に is used with
destination verbs

どこに行きます
か。Where will
you go?

私は.が東京-
にいます。I
am in Tokyo.

私は.が東京-
です。(As for
me) I am in
Tokyo.

何が東京にありますか。WHAT is in Tokyo?

!□!□Note: は is not used because it goes against the concept of TOPIC. You use なに because you don't know it and you cannot make something you don't know as the topic.

"As for what? It should be in Tokyo?" Hence, は particle does not make sense.

だれ vs 誰の

誰 / だれ "Who"

-Used to refer to someone

誰の + Noun "Whose"

-Must be followed with a Noun

-Used to refer to who something belongs to

好きな【歌手】かしゆは誰ですか？ Who is your favourite singer?

誰のカバンですか。 Whose bag is this?

何 vs どう "HOW"

何 "What"

-Literal question of "What?"

どう "What; how"

-There's a stronger nuance of how to "thinking" and "feeling" about things.

何してるの？ What are you doing?

どう思う？ What are you thinking?



何 vs どう "HOW" (cont)

兄さんはどう？ How's your (older) brother doing?

どう vs どうやって "HOW TO DO THINGS"

どう "How; in what way; by what means"

どうやって "How (to do things)(")

-Used to ask how to do things or accomplish something

-Formal counterpart of どう

-Can be used mid / new sentence

それはどうするんですか。 How shall I do it?

どうやって駅に行くんですか。 How do you get to the train station?

なぜ / どうして / 何で "WHY"

なぜ "Why?"

どうして "Why?"

何で (なんで) "Why?"

-Used in formal writing and speech, such as essays, books, magazines, websites, reports and public speaking.

-Used at any time with anyone. It is rather informal and soft, and can be used in everyday situations.

-Rarely used in everyday conversation.

どうして泣くの？ Why are you crying?

何でそんなことをするの？
Why do you do something like that?

どうしてですか？ Why is it?

彼のうちへなんで行きますか。
How do you go to his house?
自転車で。 By bicycle.

どれ "WHICH"

どれ "Which among..." (of 3 or more options)

どの + Noun "Which Noun" (of 3 or more options)

どちら / どっち "Which of the two..." (of 2 options)

どちらの + Noun "Which of the two..." (of 2 options)

が is usually used for question words.

貴方の車はどれですか。
Which one is your car?

どの国が【勝ち】かちましたか。
Which country won?

犬と猫とどちらが好きですか。 Which do you like better, dogs or cats?

どちらの国が【勝ち】かちましたか。
Which of the two countries won?

犬の方が好きです。 I like dogs more.

OTHER QUESTION WORDS

どちら / どっち "Which way?" "Which person?" F

いつ "When"

なに "What"

何 (なん) "What"

**どんな "What kind of"



OTHER QUESTION WORDS (cont)

-Can be used to ask the name of the country, company or school a person belongs to.

-Used before particles を / も
-Used before なにご, 何色

-Used for words before た, だ, な group syllable

-Can refer to a person

-Used before counter suffix Ex. なんさい

【会議室】会議しせつはどちらですか。
Which way is the conference room?

家族はいつきますか。

昨日何をしましたか。

なんですか。

大阪はどんな【町】まちですか。

国はどちらですか。 What country do you come from?

When is your family coming?

What did you do yesterday?

What about?

What kind of town is Oosaka?

"Why" with other grammar

**何のために "What for?"

どんな訳で (どんなわけで) or
どんな理由で (どんなりゆうで)

どういう訳で (どういうわけで) or
どういう理由で (どういりゆうで)

-This phrase is neutral and rather similar to どうして in terms of usage.

-More formal than the other phrases Even though this can be used in speaking, they sound rather severe.

-These two phrases are very similar to those in Point 5 above and are used in the same types of situations.

-Often used when asking a rhetorical question (a question asked in order to create a dramatic effect or to make a point rather than to get an answer.)

-Not used that often in daily conversation as if you are asked these questions, it sounds as if you are at fault and to be blamed for something you have done.

-Look at the first two examples below in particular. Can you tell that there is an element of finger-pointing and perceived wrong-doing floating ominously in the subtext of the question?

訳 (wake) and 理由 (riyuu) are very similar words (almost the same and interchangeable) so you can choose to use either.

Meaning: conclusion from reasoning, judgment or calculation based on something read or heard; reason; cause; meaning; circumstances; situation

何のためにここへ来たの？

どんなわけで来たのですか？

どういう訳でじしょくするのですか。



"Why" with other grammar (cont)

What has brought you here? / What are you here for?

Why have you come?

Why do you wish to resign?

SPECIFIC LOCATION: POSITION

<location>の<position>にNがいる/ある "N is in the position of <reference point>"

<topic>は<reference point>の<location>で<verb> "Noun is doing something in the..."

The particle で is used when you are doing something (action verb) in the location.

Positional Words:

【上】うえ : top

【近く】ちかく : near

【下】した : under

【外】そと : outside

【隣】となり : next to (same type of category)

【中】なか : inside

【前】まえ : front

よこ : next to (much wider range of things)

【後ろ】うしろ : behind

【間】あいだ : between in between (2 reference points are used)

【右】みぎ : right

【左】ひだり : left

テーブルの上に猫がいます。There is a cat on top of the table.

私はレストランの外で食べました。I ate outside the restaurant.

ドアの右にスイッチがあります。There is a switch to the right of the door.

ホテルの前で彼女を待ちました。I waited for her in front of the hotel.

木下に男の子がいます。There is a boy under the tree.

彼は図書館の中で読みます。He reads inside the library.

タクシー乗り場は駅の前にあります。The taxi stand is in front of the station.

本屋の隣にカフェがあります。There is a cafe next to the bookstore.

私は貴方の後ろにいます。I'm behind you.

この近くに公園があります。There is a park near here.

階段の左にエレベーターがあります。There is an elevator to the left of the stairs.

POSITION: 【間】あいだ

<Place 1> と <Place 2> の間にNがいます "N is between Place1 and Place2"



POSITION: 【間】 あいだ (cont)

本屋とスーパーの間に花屋があります。

There is a flower shop between the bookstore and the supermarket.

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