

INDIRECT QUESTIONS

You may remember INDIRECT STATEMENTS, which allow a speaker to report a statement said by someone (e.g. “She says that Latin is fun!”). Of course people can ask questions like “Are you coming?” So, what happens when someone wants to report a question someone asked (“They ask if you are coming?”)... they use an INDIRECT QUESTION. Unlike indirect statements, which use the accusative-infinitive construction (*dicit Latīnam esse gaudium*), indirect questions use the subjunctive. The presence of a “question word” (*uter, quandō, cūr, etc.*) makes this one of the easiest uses of the subjunctive to recognize. Like all dependent subjunctives, indirect questions follow the SEQUENCE OF TENSES.

Some examples in English. Note how the verb changes when the introductory verb is in the past tense...

Direct Question	Indirect Question	Direct Question	Indirect Question
Are you coming?	I wondered <u>if you were coming</u> .	Why are you coming?	I don't know <u>why you are coming</u> .
How much candy does he have?	She asked <u>how much candy he had</u> .	When will you arrive?	They asked <u>when you would arrive</u> .

Verb of questioning, thinking, or feeling	+ Question Word	+ Reported Activity	
E.g. Rogō, sentiō, putō	an uter... an uter unde quis/quid quam quandō quantus cūr ubi -ne	whether whether... or which (of two) from where (whence) who/what how when how large/much why where [?]	Verb in the Subjunctive (obeys sequence of tenses)
<i>Example: Rog v runt</i> <i>They asked</i>	<i>ubi</i> <i>when</i>	<i>adven r s.</i> <i>you would arrive.</i>	

