

## Indirect Question

Direct question: Where did they go?

Indirect question: He asked me where they went.

Direct question: Why did you do it?

Indirect question: He told me why he did it.

Indirect question clauses use the subjunctive.

The clause will begin with question words (interrogatives) such as:

- cur?
- ubi?
- quō?
- sī?
- quem?, cuius?, cui?, quī?, etc.

The main clause will contain verbs of asking, thinking or saying, such as:

- rogō
- dīco, narrō etc.
- putō, cōgitō, cognoscō, intellegō, etc.
- Examples: phrases like volō comprehendere ... (volū comprehendere); mihi vērē dic ... (mihi vērē dīxistī ...); semper me petis ... (semper me petīvis ...)

Tense is expressed by the following rules:

**“Primary tenses” (present and future)** In the examples below the main verb is rogat (present tense):

- **action at the same time** as the main verb: use present subjunctive.
- *quō nunc festīnāt?* becomes (*amīcus rogat*) *quō nunc festīnet?*
- **action after** the main verb: use perfect subjunctive:
- *quō hēri festīnāvit?* becomes (*amīcus rogat*) *quō hēri festīnāverit?*

- **action before** the main verb: use -ūrus, a, um plus present subjunctive of sum, esse:
- *crās quō festīnābit?* becomes (*amīcus rogat*) *quō crās festīnātūrus sit?*

**“Primary tenses” (present and future)** In the examples below the main verb is rogāvit (perfect tense)

- **action at the same time** as the main verb: use imperfect subjunctive.
- *quō nunc festīnāt?* becomes (*amīcus rogāvit*) *quō nunc festīnāret?*
- **action after** the main verb: use perfect subjunctive:
- *quō hēri festīnāvit?* becomes (*amīcus rogāvit*) *quō hēri festīnāvisset?*
- **action before** the main verb: use -ūrus, a, um plus present subjunctive of sum, esse:
- *crās quō festīnābit?* becomes (*amīcus rogāvit*) *quō crās festīnātūrus esset?*

pater mihi rogābit quō nunc festīnem.  
 pater mihi rogābit quō herī festīnāverim.  
 pater mihi rogābit cras quō festīnātūrus sum.

pater mihi rogāvit quō nunc festīnārem.  
 pater mihi rogāvit quō herī festīnāvissem.  
 pater mihi rogāvit cras quō festīnātūrus essem.

### Practice:

Direct questions:

- quem librum nunc legit?
- quem librum herī lēgit?
- quem librum crās leget?

Indirect Questions

(with a present tense verb in the main clause):

- māter scit quem librum fīlius nunc legat.
- māter scit quem librum herī lēgerit.

- māter scit quem librum crās lectūrus sit.

(with a past tense verb in the main clause):

- māter scīvit quem librum nunc legeret.
- māter scīvit quem librum herī lēgisset.
- māter scīvit quem librum crās lectūrus esset.

Direct Questions

- quantum est amor Catullī?
- quantum erat amor Catullī?
- quantum erit amor tuus?

Indirect Questions

(with a present tense verb in the main clause):

- tandem cognōscō quantum sit amor Catullī.
- tandem cognōscō quantum fuerit amor Catullī.
- tandem cognōscō quantum futūrus sit amor tuus.

(with a past tense verb in the main clause):

- tandem cognōvī quantum esset amor Catullī.
- tandem cognōvī quantum fuisset amor Catullī.
- tandem cognōvī quantum futūrus esset amor tuus.

Practice:

unde ille elephantus venit?

unde ille elephantus venit?

unde ille elephantus veniet?

quid est nōmen illius poetae tam peritī?

quid erat nōmen illius poetae tam peritī?

quid erit nōmen illius poetae tam peritī?

cūr nōn respondētis?

cūr nōn respondēbātis?

cūr nōn respondēbitis?

nunc videō cūr nōn respondatis.  
nunc videō cūr nōn respondēritis.  
nunc videō cūr nōn responsūrī sitis.

deinde vīdī cūr nōn respondēretis.  
deinde vīdī cūr nōn respondissetis.  
deinde vīdī cūr nōn responsūrī essetis.

cūr amōrem perditum dūcis?  
cūr amōrem perditum dūxistī?