

Echo questions

Introduction



"I asked Joyce to marry me." "You asked her to *marry* you?!"

Definition

These are responses, in the form of questions, to being asked or told something.

Introduction

There are two main forms:

Repetition	Subject + verb + question word
<p>A: "I just heard that Sam got the manager's job." B: "He got the <i>manager's job</i>?"</p>	<p>A: "Carol's gone to Paris to see a client." B: "She's gone <i>where</i>?" [alternative to "Where has she gone?"]</p>

Uses

Use	Examples
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To show surprise, shock or disbelief

"Did you know it's raining?"
"*It's raining?! Not again!*"

Note that we stress the question word and often a key word when repeating a phrase.

"Your visitors will be here in 10 minutes."
"*They'll be here when?! But I'm not ready yet.*"

"Did you know Simon's back from his trip?"
"*He's back?* I thought he was going for longer."

"Jamie went skiing and broke an arm and a leg."
"*He broke an arm and a leg?!"*

To ask for confirmation if we didn't hear or understand something

"This is Nicky's pen. Can you give it back to her?"
"*It's whose?*"

"Myles has finished the report. It's taken ages."
"*He's finished it?*"

Examples



"I saw Hannah and she's getting married next week." "*Anna's getting married?*" "No, not Anna - Hannah!"



"I gave the file to Keith." "*You gave it to who?*"



"They've already got four children and now they're expecting twins."

"**Twins?!**"



"We visited a remote village in the desert to see an ancient monument. The only way to get there was on camels." "**You got there how?!**"

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