

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

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

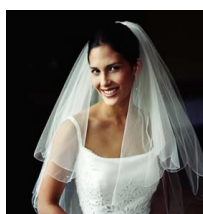
"This is Nicky's pen. Can you give it back to her?"

"**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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