In an affirmative sentence, the verb goes after the subject. However, the auxiliary verb can go before the subject of a clause in several different structures. This is called **inversion**. Inversion is quite common in questions.

He goes to work every day. (Affirmative)

**Does** he go to work every day? (Question)

They live in Bangkok. (Affirmative)

**Do** they live in Bangkok? (Question)

She is working at the moment. (Affirmative)

**Is** she working at the moment? (Question)

John and Mary have arrived. (Affirmative)

**Have** John and Mary arrived? (Question)

Note that in questions only the first auxiliary verb goes before the subject. The remaining part of the verb goes after the subject.

**Have** they been invited? (NOT Have been they invited?) (NOT Have been invited they?)

In **Wh-questions** the auxiliary verb goes after the question word.

**Where are** you going? (NOT Are where you going?) (NOT Where you are going?)

Note that spoken questions do not always have this word order.

**You’re** coming with us? (Spoken question)

**Are you** coming with us? (Written question)

As you can see a spoken question has the same word order as an affirmative sentence, but it is said with a rising intonation.

We do not use inversion in indirect questions.

I wonder **what she is** going to do. (NOT I wonder what is she going to do.)

I asked **what time the show was** starting. (NOT I asked what time was the show starting.) (NOT I asked what time was starting the show.)