

# The Use of Monosyllabic Words in Interrogative Sentences in French

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**Abstract:** This article explores the nature and usage of monosyllabic interrogative sentences in the French language, focusing on their syntactic structures, semantic meanings, and communicative roles. It emphasizes the distinction between general and specific questions and how these forms are used to gather specific information in various speech contexts. The research also delves into the pragmatic functions of such sentences, highlighting how they convey emotions like doubt, surprise, and irony.

**Keywords:** Monosyllabic interrogative sentences, syntactic structure, semantic meaning, communicative role, general questions, specific questions, pragmatic functions, emotions in language.

**Introduction:** In society, the formation of the communication process, its continuation, and the achievement of the intended goal all place great importance on the act of asking questions. In general, a question is a request addressed to someone in order to obtain information. Thus, a question is any utterance directed by the speaker in pursuit of acquiring information. A question, as something that seeks specific information and prompts a response, is contrasted with a statement and forms a question - answer pair. In such situations, the primary function of interrogative sentences - namely, to request necessary information within the context of speech - is taken into account, as well as their secondary functions and other communicative purposes.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that the study of the functions of interrogative sentences in speech acts belongs to the category of issues that have not yet been fully explored. This is because the matter is not limited to grammatical analysis alone; it is also directly connected to fields such as pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and communicative linguistics.

It is well known that interrogative sentences in French are traditionally classified into two types:

- **General questions (interrogation totale)** pertain to the entire sentence and require a yes (oui) or no (non) response.
- **Specific questions (interrogation partielle)** are always formed with interrogative pronouns and are used to ask for specific information.

General questions are formed using methods such as intonation (a change in pitch), "est-ce que" (while maintaining the usual word order), and inversion (reversing the subject and verb positions).

Specific questions, on the other hand, use interrogative pronouns to indicate exactly which part of the sentence needs to be clarified or inquired about. Such methods of forming questions can be expressed in various contexts, both semantically and grammatically.

The monosyllabic words, which are the subject of our research, are widely used in the expression of interrogative sentences. They allow for clear and effective communication, which in turn facilitates a quick and fluent exchange of information. As proof of our point, based on the types of interrogative sentences mentioned above, examples taken from everyday questions encountered in daily life can be classified as follows:

Interrogation totale:	Intonatsiya
<i>C'est une blague?</i>	<i>Tu veux que j'aile voir?</i>

<i>Vous êtes sûr?</i>	<i>Il est bon, hein?</i>
<i>Tu as vu l'heure?</i>	<i>Tu te rends compte?</i>
<i>C'est (très) long?</i>	<i>Tu en es sûre?</i>
<i>Cette place est libre?</i>	<i>C'est vrai? Tu es sûre?</i>
<i>Cette table est libre?</i>	<i>Ça va?</i>
<i>Tu comprends?</i>	<i>Tu veux boire?</i>
<i>Ça ne va pas?</i>	<i>T'es sûre?</i>
<i>C'est vrai ou ce n'est pas vrai?</i>	<i>T'as dit?</i>
<b>Est – ce que</b>	
<i>Est – ce que ça peut être vrai?</i>	
<i>Est – ce que tu me crois?</i>	
<b>Inversiya</b>	
<i>n'est – ce pas?</i>	
<b>Interrogation partielle:</b>	
<i>Qui parle?</i>	<i>Que faites – vous dans la vie?</i>
<i>Qui est là?</i>	<i>Que se passe – t- il?</i>
<i>Qui vous a dit ça?</i>	<i>Que fais – tu là?</i>
<i>Qui est – ce?</i>	<i>Que veux – tu me dire?</i>
<i>Quel air a – t – il (elle)?</i>	<i>Où sommes – nous?</i>
<i>Quel est votre nom?</i>	<i>D'où viens – tu?</i>
<i>Quel âge a – t- il?</i>	<i>Où se trouve... (le bar, le WC)?</i>
<i>De quelle gare part notre train?</i>	<i>Quand? va boshqalar</i>

As seen from the analysis of the examples, intonation and inversion—universal tools in forming monosyllabic interrogative sentences—are actively used in speech, making it more fluent and livelier, especially in oral and informal communication.

As mentioned above, interrogative sentences serve the function of requesting information. They differ from other sentence types through their grammatical

structure, intonation, and often the use of interrogative pronouns. Their main syntactic structures are distinct from one another. It should be noted that through syntactic structures, thoughts in a language can be expressed clearly, grammatically correctly, and in a stylistically appropriate manner. The following table allows us to observe the diversity of syntactic structures in interrogative sentences:

<b>Types of Interrogative sentences:</b>	<b>Syntactic Forms:</b>
<b>General question</b>	
Inversiya	V+S (verbe+sujet)
Est – ce que	Est- ce-que +S+V
Intonatsiya	S + V
<b>Specific questions</b>	
Maxsus savollar(formelle)	So'roq olm. + V+S
Maxsus savollar(neutre)	So'roq olm. + est-ce-que + S + V
Maxsus savollar(oral/fam)	S'roq olm. + S + V

Throughout our research, we observed that monosyllabic interrogative sentences are short but express a clear questioning meaning. These types of sentences are typically used in spoken language during communication. Their structures are syntactically

simple, which distinguishes them in speech.

For example, S + V:

Tu as vu l'heure? Il est bon, hein? T'es sûre? Cette place est libre?

### Interrogative pronoun + V + S:

Où sommes-nous? Qui est-ce? Quel est votre nom?  
Que veux-tu me dire?

### Est-ce que + S + V:

Est-ce que ça peut être vrai? Est-ce que tu me crois?  
such structural questions are commonly found in speech. In spoken French, structures like Est-ce que + S + V are more dominant. They can convey emotions such as exclamation, doubt, or surprise.

For instance, the question Est-ce que ça peut être vrai? reflects an inner sense of amazement or disbelief Can this really be true? Is it possible?

The question Est-ce que tu me crois? although it is a simple yes /no question, can express either affirmation or doubt depending on the tone used. Thus, even though interrogative sentences may appear structurally similar, they can convey different meanings depending on the context of the conversation.

In French, interrogative pronouns such as qui, que, où, quoi, quelle, and quand also play a significant role in the formation of monosyllabic interrogative sentences. Although these pronouns are usually short and simple,

they can convey a complete question or a pragmatically complete meaning. Let us take a look at the following dialogues:

- |          |            |          |
|----------|------------|----------|
| - Qui?   | - Que?     | - Quoi?  |
| - Claire | - le livre | - ça va. |

In such dialogues, although the interrogative sentences are short and simple, they can still convey a complete meaning, and each interrogative pronoun requires a specific answer. These monosyllabic interrogative sentences are not only used for asking questions but also aimed at obtaining specific information.

In the process of speech communication, the primary function of interrogative sentences is to request the information required by the speech situation, while their secondary function lies in expressing pragmatic relationships. These relationships can convey different emotions such as doubt, irony, surprise, dissatisfaction, and so on, depending on the situation. During our research, the pragmatic nature of the monosyllabic interrogative sentences analyzed was as follows:

Emotions:	Monosyllabic Interrogative sentences:	Uzbek interpretation:
<i>Hayratlanish</i>	<i>T'as dit?</i> <i>Que fais-tu là?</i>	- <i>Nima deding?</i> - <i>Bu erda nima qilyapsan?</i>
<i>Shubha</i>	<i>Tu en es sûre? / T'es sûre?</i> <i>C'est vrai? Tu es sûre?</i>	- <i>Ishonching komilmi?</i> - <i>Rostmi?</i>
<i>Tasdiqlash istagi</i>	<i>Il est bon, hein?</i> <i>N'est-ce pas?</i>	- <i>Yaxshi, to'g'rimi?</i> - <i>To'g'rimi?</i>

Thus, when studying interrogative sentences, we can rely on two main factors. First, the role of the question in the communicative process, and second, the relationship between its syntactic structure and semantic meaning. In conclusion, at the current stage of linguistic development, we have witnessed the diverse interpretations of the nature of interrogative sentences, which is primarily reflected in monosyllabic interrogative sentences.

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