

## Indirect questions

= a question which is embedded in a longer sentence

e.g. *I don't know what it means.*

Compare to a direct question: *What does it mean?*

- The **word order** in an embedded question is the same one as in a statement: **subject - verb**
  - e.g. *Tell me where **the stress is**.* (vs. *Where is the stress?*)
- When the question is a yes-no question and has no 'question word', we use **if** or **whether**
  - e.g. *I have no idea **if** n is a natural number.* (vs. *Is n a natural number?*)

The question can be embedded in any number of sentences. Among the most common ones are:

*Do you know...*

*I can't remember...*

*I don't know...*

*I have no idea...*

*Can you tell me...*

*I would like to ask...*

It is natural to use indirect questions **in presentations**. They make them more lively.

e.g. *I'm going to tell you what the difference between BLA and BLE is.*

*I'm sure you know what N stands for.*

*We will now look at how this works.*

*I would like to show you...*