

AN EASY WAY OF ASKING QUESTIONS

SUTARYANTO

Dosen Sekolah Tinggi Penerbangan Indonesia PO Box 509 Tangerang (15001)

Summary: *Asking and answering questions can be considered as the fundamental stuff that makes up a conversation and keeps it going. When you don't ask question about something that you don't know, you will never get any information about it, and you will never know about it. Most people, especially Indonesian people, hesitate to ask questions as they are afraid of making mistakes in their questions. For this reason, this topic is intended to. We can often ask straightforward questions of people we are very familiar with. However good manner requires us to be polite in the way we ask something to strangers or people to whom we should respect.*

Key word: *easy way, asking questions*

INTRODUCTION

Questions, of course, play an important role in our daily communication and activities. We can't imagine keeping our daily activities without being asked or without asking question to each other. When nobody asks questions in our community, then there will be no social communication and life will be very quiet and dull. Class activity, for instance, will be like people in the theatre watching performance. Students will be listening to their teacher describing a concept of some formula, or watching their teacher demonstrating certain skills and the students just listening or imitating what their teacher doing. The teacher would get difficulties in assuming whether the students have understood what he has explained or performed, or not. And the students would not be able to get further explanation or demonstration if they don't feel sure about their perception.

But the worst thing when we don't ask questions is that we won't get the required information we need. We will only get required information we need when we ask questions to the right person. From the questions we ask, then we will get the expected answer from the right person and of course the expected answer we will receive is the required information we need.

Some students don't ask questions, even when they don't understand the lesson they get from their teacher merely because they hesitate or feel shy to ask, or they are afraid of making mistakes in their questions. They don't want to lose their face before their friends. Learning to make questions in English, however, is not difficult, and we can do it easily and in relatively short time. We can classify these questions into two basic types, namely verbal questions and pronominal questions. Since language is not an exact science, there is some exception to these two types of questions, known as communicative questions. To have better idea about them, let's follow these following descriptions.

A. Verbal Questions

What are verbal questions? Verbal questions can be defined as questions that begin with finite verbs. What are finite verbs, then? The word "finite" itself is actually a kind of terminology used in describing some grammatical formula. Therefore, finite verbs can be defined as follows:

1. **A finite verb** is a verb that can change its form when you change the subject from plural to singular, or vice versa, as in: