



# Unit 1: Derechos y deberes de la juventud

## Let's read this text:

**Me:** Excuse me. Where is the bank?

**Person in the street:** It's along the street on the right.

**Me:** Thank you. Is there a supermarket near here?

**Person in the street:** Yes, there's one next to the gas station.

**Me:** Thank you very much for your help.

## Now let's read this one:

**Me:** Excuse me. Could you tell me where the bank is?

**Person in the street:** Of course. It's along the street on the right.

**Me:** Thank you. Can you tell if there's a supermarket near here?

**Person in the street:** Yes, there's one next to the gas station.

**Me:** Thank you very much for your help.

# INDIRECT QUESTIONS

- ▶ There are two main ways of asking questions - directly and indirectly. Both have the same meaning but we use **indirect questions** when we want to be **more polite, more formal or less confrontational**.
- ▶ Example: We use indirect questions when we ask for help in the street, because they are very polite.





▶ **Direct:** What time is it?

**Indirect:** Do you know what time it is?

▶ **Direct:** Why was he late?

**Indirect:** Can you tell me why he was late?

▶ **Direct:** What is your name?

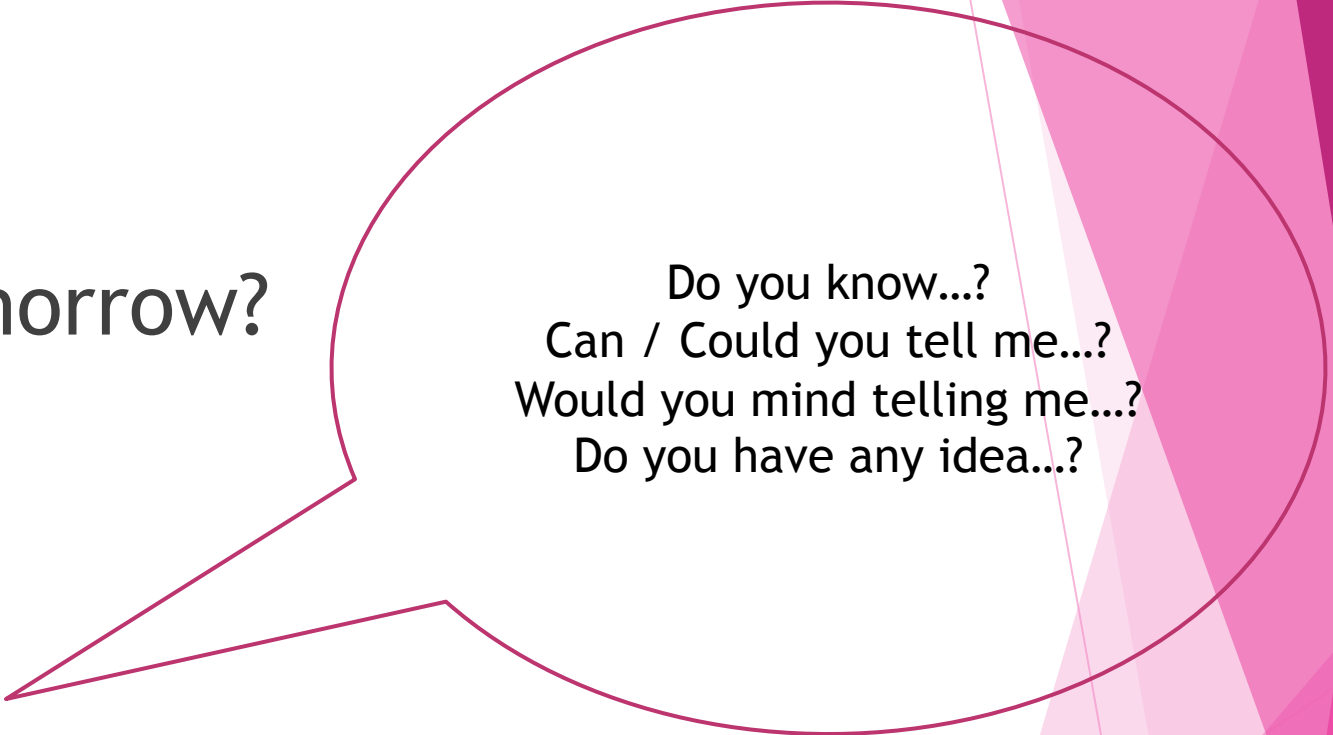
**Indirect:** Would you mind telling me what your name is?

- ▶ **Direct:** When does the lesson end?  
**Indirect:** Could you tell me when the lesson ends?
- ▶ **Direct:** What car does she drive?  
**Indirect:** Can you tell me what car she drives?
- ▶ **Direct:** How did you make that cake?  
**Indirect:** Would you mind telling me how you made that cake?

- ▶ **Direct:** Did she make it on time?  
**Indirect:** Can you tell me if she made it on time?  
or  
Can you tell me **whether** she made it on time?
- ▶ **Direct:** Is this the right bus for Oxford Street?  
**Indirect:** Do you have any idea if this is the right bus for Oxford Street?
- ▶ **Direct:** Do you eat pasta?  
**Indirect:** Could you tell me **whether** you eat pasta(or not)?



- ▶ Where does she play tennis?
- ▶ Where has she gone?
- ▶ Does he live in Paris?
- ▶ What will you do tomorrow?
- ▶ Is she hungry?
- ▶ Are you sad?
- ▶ When is the party?
- ▶ Can she swim?
- ▶ Can he work on Monday?
- ▶ Did she go out last night?



Do you know...?  
Can / Could you tell me...?  
Would you mind telling me...?  
Do you have any idea...?