

Wh- Questions: Sequence of Development

Stage 1

- Inversion not possible since auxiliary verbs not yet acquired.
- First words are what and where, followed by who, how, and why. When, which, and whose are relatively late acquisitions.

Where that?
What me think?
Why you smiling?
Why not me drink it?

Stage 2

- Auxiliary verbs make their appearance, but no inversion of subject

Why Kitty can't stand up?
Where I should put it?
Where I should sleep?
Why you are smiling?

Stage 3

- Inversion is common

Where did my mitten go?
Where should I sleep?
Why are you smiling?