

Questions and Question Words

Practice asking and answering questions.

1. Warm up

Ask and answer the quiz questions. If you don't know the answer, take a guess.

1. How many strings does a violin have?
2. How many sides does an octagon have?
3. How many legs does a butterfly have?
4. How do you say hello in Japanese?
5. How many dots does one die (dice) have?
6. When and where did the first modern Olympics begin?



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2. Question Words

A. Which question words do you use to talk about 1-10?

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> How many | <input type="checkbox"/> When | <input type="checkbox"/> How | <input type="checkbox"/> How long | <input type="checkbox"/> Which |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How often | <input type="checkbox"/> Where | <input type="checkbox"/> Who | <input type="checkbox"/> What | <input type="checkbox"/> Why |

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. People | 6. In what way or manner |
| 2. Things | 7. The number of times |
| 3. Places | 8. A period of time |
| 4. Times | 9. A type of thing |
| 5. The reason | 10. The number of things |

B. Match the questions to the best response.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. ____ How often do you study English? | a. None. I'm an only child. |
| 2. ____ Which days do you study English? | b. I study English and listen to music. |
| 3. ____ How long does it take to get to class? | c. About twenty minutes. |
| 4. ____ When does your class start? | d. My parents and my brother. |
| 5. ____ Who do you live with? | e. By bicycle and on foot. |
| 6. ____ How do you commute to class? | f. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. |
| 7. ____ What do you do on weekends? | g. Half past nine in the morning. |
| 8. ____ How many brothers and sisters do you have? | h. Three times a week. |

3. Practice

A. Review the construction of questions using the auxiliary verb 'do'.

	Question word + Noun	Auxiliary verb	Subject	Main verb	Prepositional phrase
1.	What sports	do	you	play	on the weekend?
2.	What time	does	the movie	start?	

B. Put the words in the correct order (unscramble) to form questions.

1. Mondays? / do / what / you / on / do

.....

2. play? / do / what / you / sports

.....

3. every week? / many / how / do / times / study / you / English

.....

4. What / you / listen to? / kind of / do / music

.....

C. Write the questions for the following answers. Review Part 3A for help.

1.

I go to school by train.

4.

I eat lunch at 12 o'clock.

2.

I study English three times a week.

5.

I play tennis on Saturdays.

3.

I wake up at 9 o'clock every day.

6.

I play tennis with my friend.

4. Conversation

A. Fill the gaps to complete the questions.

1. Where you live?

6. pets you have?

2. do you live with?

7. will you this weekend?

3. How do you do exercise?

8. do you for breakfast?

4. do you do on weekends?

9. kind of food you like?

5. do you wake up everyday?

10. languages do you speak?

B. Ask and answer the questions above. Changes roles and practice again.

Questions and Question Words



Level: Elementary: A2

Updated: Oct 28, 2021

Target: Language function: Asking and answering questions. Talking about daily life.
Language forms: Present tense. Modal and auxiliary verbs.

Target time: 60 minutes.

Overview: Students practice asking questions using a variety of question words and giving appropriate responses. Special attention is given to patterns used when forming questions in English. Students are introduced to the auxiliary verbs 'be' and 'do'.

1. WARM UP

In pairs or small groups, have students ask each other the questions in the general knowledge quiz. If students don't know the answer, encourage them to say "I don't know", guess the answer, and move to the next question. Each question uses a different question word. Discuss answers as a class when everyone has finished. You may choose to have students research the answers using the Internet as a homework activity.

1. A violin has 4 strings.
2. An octagon has 8 sides.
3. A butterfly has 6 legs.
4. You say 'konnichiwa.'
5. A die has 21 dots.
6. The first modern Olympics began in 1896 in Athens

2. QUESTION WORDS

- A. Individually or in pairs, students match the questions words used when talking about 1-10.
- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1. People | Who |
| 2. Things | What |
| 3. Places | Where |
| 4. Times | When |
| 5. The reason | Why |
| 6. In what way or manner | How |
| 7. The number of times | How often |
| 8. A period of time | How long |
| 9. A type of thing | Which |
| 10. The number of things | How many |
- B. Individually or in pairs, students match the questions on the left to the responses on the right. If done individually, students can check their matches with their partner by alternating asking a question and responding. Students can discuss any differences. Check answers with the class.
1. How often do you study English?
h. Three times a week.
 2. Which days do you study English?
f. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.
 3. How long does it take to get to class?
c. about twenty minutes.
 4. When does your class start?
g. Half past nine in the morning.
 5. Who do you live with?
d. My parents and my brother.

6. How do you commute to class?
e. By bicycle and on foot.
7. What do you do on weekends?
b. I study English and listen to music.
8. How many brothers and sisters do you have?
a. None. I'm an only child.

3. PRACTICE

- A. Write the table and two questions on the board and discuss as a class. Review the construction of questions using the auxiliary verb 'do'. Explain that typically if we are asking about an activity (verb) we use an auxiliary verb - often do, can, or should. Demonstrate the difference in meaning if the auxiliary verb 'do' is replaced with 'can' or 'should' if level appropriate.
- B. Have students put the words in the correct order (unscramble) to form questions. Students can review the questions Part 3 for help.
1. What do you do on Mondays?
 2. What sports do you play?
 3. How many times do you study English every week?
 4. What kind of music do you listen to?
- C. Individually, students write the questions for answers 1-6. Students can compare their questions with their partner and discuss any differences. If students need help they can scan the questions in previous parts of the handout for clues. Check answers with the class.
1. How do you go to school?
 2. How often/How many times do you study English?
 3. What time do you wake up every day?
 4. What time do you eat lunch?
 5. What do you do/play on Saturdays? When do you play tennis?
 6. Who do you play tennis with?

4. CONVERSATION

- A. Individually, students fill the gaps to complete the questions. It should be easy for students at this stage, but offer help if required or suggest scanning the handout for clues.
1. do
 2. Who
 3. often/much
 4. What
 5. What time

6. How many ... do
7. What ... do/eat/see/play Where ... go
8. What ... eat/have
9. What ... do
10. How many

- B. In pairs, students take turns asking their partner the completed questions in Part 5A. Encourage students to answer the question directly, then continue the conversation by providing additional information. Students should ask follow-up questions to continue the conversation if interesting. There is no need to make corrections at this stage. Allow students to enjoy a conversation with their partner.

If appropriate, students can present the information they learned from their conversations to the class. Encourage other students to ask follow-up questions.