

Noun clauses with *wh-* words and *if/whether*

Writers often introduce issues with *wh-* noun clauses. These clauses begin with *what, who, which, when, how, why, whether, or if* and occur most frequently as the object of a sentence. These clauses present questions inside of a larger sentence.

Let's talk about what we found in our readings and then plan the presentation.

The authors of the study discussed how useful this will be in computer-generated graphics in games and movies.

Participants had to decide if they would want to date the person in the picture, on a scale of one to four.

Notice that these noun clauses use statement word order.

Let's talk about what we found in our readings.

Let's talk about what ~~did we find~~ in our readings.

- 1 Combine each pair of sentences. Change the question into a noun clause in the new sentence.

1 Who would make a good life partner? This quiz can tell you.

2 What do people react to in first impressions? It's difficult to say.

3 Which facial features are particularly significant in first impressions?
It's surprising.

4 Are initial judgments accurate? Researchers wanted to find out.

5 How fast do people make decisions about traits such as reliability and intelligence? One recent study looked at this.
