

Questions and answers

Read the interviews and match the questions 1-7 from the blog with their answers



Every week the British newspaper, The Guardian, chooses people who have been in the news recently, and publishes a short interview with them called Q&A.

The actor **Benedict Cumberbatch** was born in London in 1976. He has starred in many successful TV series and films, including *Sherlock*, *War Horse*, *Star Trek*, and *The Hobbit*.

1 What's one of your happiest memories?

Sitting with the sun on my face and a beer in my hand, the morning after I had been in a car-jacking in South Africa.

2

When I was six, I got stung by a wasp in a Greek market. A woman pulled down my pants and rubbed an onion on my bottom.

3 What don't you like about your personality?

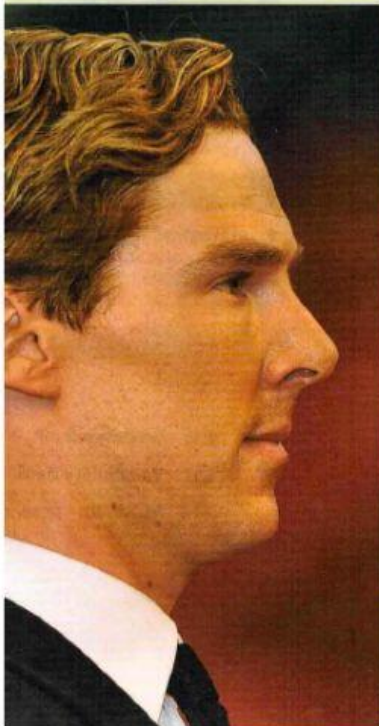
I'm impatient, but also indecisive.

4 What is your greatest fear?

Forgetting people's names.

5

The size and shape of my head. People say I look like Sid from *Ice Age*.



6 What costume would you wear to a fancy dress party?

I rather enjoyed wearing bandages round my face as the Invisible Man at the last one I went to. People got to know me without recognizing me.

7 Which words or phrases do you most overuse?

I say "Erm..." too much.

8 What one thing would improve the quality of your life?

Better time management.

9

I might not have called Trevor Nunn, the famous director, 'Adrian' at my first audition for him.



The actress **Elisabeth Moss** was born in California in 1982. She has been in several very successful US TV dramas, including *The West Wing* and *Mad Men* for which she won an Emmy award.

1

Going out into the backyard of my home in LA and pretending to build a vegetable garden with sticks and rocks. I must have been five.

2 Which living person do you most admire?

This is kind of cheesy, but my mum.

3 Which living person do you most despise, and why?

I won't say his name.

4

Not getting enough sleep.

5 What is your favourite smell?

Jasmine. I grew up in Los Angeles, in the hills, and there was always jasmine growing.

6

To a really good girlfriend with whom I lost touch when I was little. I would love to see her again.

7 If you could go back in time, where would you go?

To a 1930s jazz club in New York City. I love the art deco period – the jewellery, the clothes, the music.

8

I am big fan of getting a box set and watching the entire show in two or three weeks. I'm watching *The Sopranos* at the moment, because I missed it when it first came out.

9 What has been your most frightening experience?

When I was little, I was on a lake in the US and got caught underneath a rowing boat. That was pretty scary.

Glossary

car-jacking the crime of forcing the driver of a car to take you somewhere or give you their car

Emmy a US award similar to the Oscars, but for TV

backyard AmE back garden

cheesy informal too emotional or romantic in a way that is embarrassing, e.g. a cheesy love song

Adapted from The Guardian

Read the interviews again using the glossary to help you. Answer the questions with **BC** (Benedict Cumberbatch) or **EM** (Elisabeth Moss).

Who...?

- 1 ☐ had an embarrassing experience as a child
- 2 ☐ finds it hard to make decisions
- 3 ☐ avoids answering one of the questions
- 4 ☐ had a dangerous experience when they were travelling abroad
- 5 ☐ had a dangerous experience when they were young
- 6 ☐ often hesitates when they're speaking
- 7 ☐ was fond of a kind of flower when they were a child
- 8 ☐ has a favourite decade

GRAMMAR question formation

a Now read the questions in **1b** again and answer the questions below with a partner.

- 1 Which questions are examples of...?
 - a subject question, where there is no auxiliary verb
 - a question which ends with a preposition
 - a question which uses a negative auxiliary verb
- 2 What happens to the word order in the question *What would you change?* when you add *do you think* after *what*?

a Order the words to make questions.



tomorrow can't Why come you ?
Why can't you come tomorrow?

- 1 I Should her tell I feel how ?
- 2 friend known long best have How you your ?
- 3 tell when you train next leaves the Could me ?
- 4 housework family in Who your the does ?
- 5 are What about you thinking ?
- 6 at don't weekend you What doing the like ?
- 7 music to does What Jane kind like listening of ?
- 8 you time film know finishes Do what the ?
- 9 class students yesterday to many came How ?
- 10 you remember is where Do the restaurant ?

b Complete the questions with the words in brackets.

Where did you go on holiday last year? (you / go)

- 1 How often _____ exercise? (you / usually do)
- 2 Who _____ *Oliver Twist*? (write)
- 3 Could you tell me how much _____ ?
(this book / cost)
- 4 I can't remember where _____ my car this morning. (I / park)
- 5 _____ your trip to Paris last weekend?
(you / enjoy)
- 6 What kind of work _____ ? (your sister / do)
- 7 Who _____ the last biscuit? (eat)
- 8 Do you know what time _____ on a Saturday?
(the swimming pool / open)
- 9 _____ the present you gave her? (your sister / not like)
- 10 _____ play your music so loud? I can't concentrate. (you / have to)

a Complete the questions.



- 1 A I don't like her dress.
B What don't you like about it?
A The style. I think it's awful.
B It must have cost a fortune though.
A Yes. Who _____ it?
B Her grandparents paid. It was a wedding present.
- 2 A Do you know _____ over there?
B That woman there? I think she's Claire's cousin.
A Her hairstyle is very old-fashioned!
- 3 A Where _____ on their honeymoon?
B On an African safari, I think.
A How _____ going _____?
B Three weeks!
- 4 A Who _____ Tony _____?
B Nobody. He came on his own. His girlfriend left him last month.
A Why _____ him?
B I think she met someone else.
- 5 A _____ long _____ Matt and Claire _____ each other?
B For about a year, I think.
A Where _____?
B Someone told me they met on an online dating site.
A Online dating? Who _____ that?
B I think Alex told me. He's Matt's best friend.

b Change the direct questions to indirect questions.

- 1 'Where are the toilets?' 'Could you tell me where the toilets are?'
2 'Why didn't Sarah come to the wedding?' 'Do you know _____?'
3 'Is that tall woman over there Claire's mother?' 'Do you know _____?'
4 'What does Molly's husband do?' 'Do you remember _____?'
5 'Can I get a taxi after midnight?' 'Do you have any idea _____?'
6 'Did Claire's sister get married here?' 'Do you remember _____?'
7 'Will they be happy?' 'Do you think _____?'
8 'Where did they put our coats?' 'Do you know _____?'