

What Caught My Eye Was ...

Cleft Sentences

A cleft sentence (means split in 2)

is used to emphasize a particular part of a sentence. One element of the sentence is shifted from its normal position into a separate clause.

Example:

The gleaming exterior of the 1957 Chevy caught my eye.



Cleft: What caught my eye was the gleaming exterior of the 1957 Chevy.

Fill in it or what

- _____ was the beautiful blue color that convinced me to buy the Cadillac.
- _____ was the idea of being in a vintage car parade that helped me make my decision.
- _____ I need now are the funds to make the purchase.
- _____ was the gorgeous whitewall tires that made the car all the more attractive.
- _____ I wanted most now was the classic muscle car I saw in the showroom.
- _____ thrilled me most about the 1955 Thunderbird was its classic design.
- _____ was the sleek fins on the light blue Thunderbird that made me like the car so much.



Two major forms of cleft sentences- it and what

Sentences that begin with **it** and are followed by the verb **to be** and then **the focus** of the cleft sentence.

It: It was Matthew who got me interested in vintage cars. (emphasis in beginning)

Matthew got me interested in vintage cars.

In what sentences- what is the subject- followed by the clause and the verb **to be**

What: What I would like to buy is a vintage Thunderbird. (emphasis at end of sentence)

I would like to buy a vintage Thunderbird.

Transform the following sentences into cleft sentences

1. I wanted to buy a vintage auto because of my nostalgia for bygone auto designs.

2. Driving a vintage car makes you stand out in a crowd.

5. The beautiful design of the classic Thunderbird makes owning it a joy.

6. The 1957 Chevy is so special because of its two-toned exterior and its graceful fins.

7. Muscle cars are exciting to own because of their unique design features and tremendous power.

8. The opportunity to make new friendships with the owners of other classic cars was also important.

