

Questions

Asking questions in the past and present

In this unit you learn how to ask questions in the present and the past. You learn about indirect questions and more about question words.

Direct questions in the present and past

How well do you know your best friend?

- ① How long have you known him/her?
- ② How often do you text him/her?
- ③ When did he/she last come to your house?
- ④ Which does he/she like better, coffee or tea?
- ⑤ What was he/she doing yesterday evening?
- ⑥ How tall is he/she?
- ⑦ Why do you like him/her?

Read the quiz and look at the answers. Decide which is the best answer for each question.
 A About three times a day. B 1.6 m C Working in a restaurant. D Because he's very funny.
 E Since we started school together. F On Saturday morning. G Coffee.

Answers: D E 2 A 3 F 4 G 5 C 6 B 7 D

Indirect questions

You can also ask indirect questions. These can sound more polite.

Do you know where the post office is? (=Where is the post office?)

Did you understand what he was saying? (=What was he saying?)

Can you tell me when the bank opens? (=When does the bank open?)

How, which, whose

You use **how** to ask for instructions to do something.

How do you turn the computer on?

Can you tell me how I can get a passport?

You use **which** when you are asking about a small number of things.

Which dress do you prefer?

Which programme do you want to watch?

To find out who something belongs to, you use **whose**.

A: *Whose car is that outside?*

B: *It's mine.*

Do you know whose those gloves are?

To find out what someone thinks about a person or thing you can use **what ... like**.

A: *What's their new CD like?*

B: *It's great.*

A: *What's your new teacher like?*

B: *She's quite nice but she's a bit strict.*

Remember!

Look carefully at the different verb forms in direct and indirect questions.

When does the supermarket open?

Do you know when the supermarket opens?

Exercise 1

Choose the correct words.

1 Whose glasses **these are** / **are these**?

2 Could you tell me when **the next train leaves** / **the next train does leave**?

3 Do you know why **is the door locked** / **the door is locked**?

4 How **you open** / **do you open** this cupboard?

5 How tall **your sister is** / **is your sister**?

6 What **is her new boyfriend** / **her new boyfriend is** like?

Exercise 2

Find the wrong or extra word in each sentence.

1 Which are books do you need to take with you?

2 How often times do you go to the gym?

3 Can you tell me when is the show starts?

4 He asked me where do I work.

5 How long time is the movie?

6 Why was the letter it written in French?

Exercise 3

Complete the sentences by writing one word in each gap.

1 _____ is the food like at the new restaurant?

2 _____ of these bags do you like best?

3 _____ often should I take the medicine?

4 How _____ have you been waiting here?

5 _____ much rice would you like?

6 Do you know _____ Patrick looks so angry?

Exercise 4

Match the sentence halves.

- 1 Does he understand
- 2 Could you tell me where I
- 3 How often are
- 4 How long is it
- 5 Do you know why
- 6 How long has your family

- a until your holiday?
- b what he needs to do?
- c Jake needed so much money?
- d can buy a ticket?
- e the rooms cleaned?
- f lived in this country?

Exercise 5

Complete the sentences by writing one word in each gap.

which | who | like | why | long | whose

- 1 How _____ did he spend in hospital?
- 2 Do you know _____ laptop this is?
- 3 _____ gave Tara the job?
- 4 Can you tell me _____ the trains are so late?
- 5 What was your hotel _____?
- 6 _____ dress have you decided to wear?

Exercise 6

Put each sentence into the correct order.

1 when / the / cooked / food / was / ?

2 how / wall / is / the / high / ?

3 are / these computers / often / checked / how / ?

4 pictures / like / you / which / best / do / ?

5 me how / use this machine / you / can / tell / to / ?

6 was / story / to the class / whose / read / ?
