

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.

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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.
