

Read the following conversation between the teacher and a new Student:

Teacher : What is your name?

Student : My name is Anek.

Teacher : How old are you?

Student : I am seven years old.

Teacher : What is your father?

Student : My father is a doctor.

Teacher : What is your mother?

Student : My mother is a housewife.



You can see that the teacher is asking some questions to the student who is giving answers. All these questions start with a question word.

Remember: 'Who', 'Which', 'Whom', 'Why', 'Where', 'What', 'When', 'Whose' and 'How' are called **question words**. Since they start with 'W' (except 'How') they are called '**W**' words also.

The questions that start with a question word cannot be answered in 'yes' or 'no'.

Read the following examples:





You can see that the question words are always placed at the beginning of the questions and the linking verbs come thereafter.

Let's *Practise*

A. Fill in the blanks with the correct question words and complete the questions. Use the expressions on the right as clue:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. _____ is your class teacher? | (Miss Sushma) |
| 2. _____ is your new bag? | (On the table) |
| 3. _____ old are you? | (Seven years) |
| 4. _____ will your examination start? | (Next month) |
| 5. _____ is your favourite colour? | (Pink) |
| 6. _____ is the time now? | (It's nine O'clock) |
| 7. _____ are you late today? | (I missed the bus) |
| 8. _____ is standing there? | (My friend) |
| 9. _____ will you go to Delhi? | (Next week) |
| 10. _____ book is this? | (It's mine) |

B. Given below are some questions in column 'A'. Their answers are also given in column 'B' but in a jumbled way. Read the questions carefully and draw a line to match them with the correct answers:

Column 'A'

1. What is the colour of an egg?
2. When will the show start?
3. Where are the students?

Column 'B'

- (a) He is twenty-seven years old.
- (b) The blue one is mine.
- (c) There is only one banana.

4. Why are you calling me?
5. How many bananas are there?
6. Which is your water bottle?
7. How old is your uncle?
8. Whom do you want to meet?
9. What is the time now?
10. What is the price of this pen?

- (d) It will start at 3 p.m.
- (e) I want to meet the manager.
- (f) Only twenty-five rupees.
- (g) It's white.
- (h) They are in the classroom.
- (i) It's five-thirty p.m.
- (j) I want to ask you a question.

C. Read the answers and frame questions:

Q. 1. _____ ?

Ans. The train will arrive at 9.30 a.m.

Q. 2. _____ ?

Ans. My house is near the old Shiva temple.

Q. 3. _____ ?

Ans. We shall go to Shimla during the summer vacation.

Q. 4. _____ ?

Ans. He is my elder brother.

Q. 5. _____ ?

Ans. An ostrich cannot fly.

Q. 6. _____ ?

Ans. A rainbow has seven colours.

Q. 7. _____ ?

Ans. I like to read comic books.

Q. 8. _____ ?

Ans. This bag is mine.

Q. 9. _____ ?

Ans. My mother helps me in my homework.

Q. 10. _____ ?

Ans. They are in the class.

Q. 11. _____ ?

Ans. My pen is in my pocket.

Q. 12. _____ ?

Ans. I like to eat ice cream.

