



# Asking questions

Lesson code: HRFI-XLVB-9ENG-Z

PRE-INTERMEDIATE +

## 1 Presentation

Study the table below.

Statement	Question forms
I'm working.	What <b>are</b> you doing?
Yes, I <b>can</b> swim.	<b>Can</b> you swim?
No, I've never been there.	<b>Have</b> you been to Italy?
I <b>was</b> sleeping.	What <b>were</b> you doing this morning?
I'm going to visit my aunt.	What <b>are</b> you going to do tomorrow?
I work.	What <b>do</b> you do everyday?
I went out with some friends.	What <b>did</b> you do last night?

### Rules for forming questions

Verbs such as **can, are, is, was, have** are called auxiliary or helping verbs.

1. What happens to the position of the subject (e.g. 'you') and the auxiliary verb when we form a question?
2. How do we form questions with the **present simple** and **past simple**?

## Asking questions

ENGLISH GRAMMAR

### 2 Practice 1

Ask an appropriate question for each response:

1. I'm reading a book about travel.  
What .....
2. I went to a party.  
Where ..... last night?
3. I'm meeting her at 5 o'clock.  
What time .....
4. I arrived yesterday.  
When .....
5. I was drinking orange juice.  
What ..... this morning?
6. I get to work by train.  
How ..... every day?
7. I'm staying here for two weeks.  
How long .....
8. I finished my homework an hour ago.  
When .....

### 3 Practice 2

Work in pairs. Student A, look at the text below. Student B, look at the text on the next page. Complete your texts by asking each other about the missing information.



**Student A**

Barack Obama was born in Hawaii in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> (when?). His mother was from \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> (where?) and his father was from Kenya. His parents met in 1960 at \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> (where?). Obama studied at Columbia University and Harvard Law School. He worked as a community organizer in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> (where?) and married Michelle Robinson in 1992. Currently, they have \_\_\_\_\_ (how many?) daughters. Obama was a senator for eight years and he became the President of the United States in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> (when?). He plays basketball every week and apart from English he speaks \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> (which language?).

## Asking questions

ENGLISH GRAMMAR

### Student B

Barack Obama was born in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> (where?) in 1961. His mother was from Kansas and his father was from \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> (where?). His parents met \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> (when?) at the University of Hawaii. Obama studied at \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> (where?). He worked as a community organizer in Chicago and married \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> (who?) in 1992. Currently, they have two daughters. Obama was a senator for \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> (how long?) and he became the President of the United States in 2009. He plays \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> (which sport?) every week and apart from English he speaks basic Indonesian.

## 4 Practice 3

Complete the dialogue below.

**William:** Hi, Kate. What did you do at the weekend? (you / do / at the weekend?)

**Kate:** I went hiking in the mountains.

**William:** How \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> (it / was?)

**Kate:** It was great. I really enjoyed the fresh air and amazing views.

**William:** How often \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> (you / go hiking?)

**Kate:** About once a year. What \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> (you / do / next weekend?)

**William:** I don't know yet. Maybe we could go to the cinema. What \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> (you / think / about that?)

**Kate:** Hmm...what film \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> (you / want / see?)

**William:** The new James Bond film. \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> (you / see it / yet?)

**Kate:** No, I haven't. It sounds like a good idea. What time \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> (you / want / to meet?)

**William:** Well, they're showing the film at 8.30pm. So \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> (you / can / meet me at 8 o'clock?)

**Kate:** Sure, no problem.

In pairs, read the dialogue.