

Unit 8: QUESTION WORDS

Question words ask for new information. They go at the beginning of the sentence.

Basic question words

QUESTION WORD

Who ...?
What ...?
When ...?
Where ...?
Which ...?
How ...?
Whose ...?
Why ...?

ANSWER

John bought an MP3 player.
John bought an **MP3 player**.
He bought it **yesterday**.
He bought it **at the electronics store**.
He got **the small** MP3 player (not the big one).
He carried it home **carefully**.
It is **John's** MP3 player.
He bought it **to listen to music**.

NOTICE: Instead of **why**, we can say: **What** did he buy it **for**?

How + word

How big ...?
How small ...?
How much ...?
How many dollars ...?
How long ... (for) ?
How far ... ?
How often ... ?

The MP3 player was **quite small**.
The MP3 player was **quite** small.
The MP3 player cost **one hundred dollars**.
The MP3 player cost **one hundred** dollars.
He saved to buy it **for** over **two months**.
It's **five kilometres** to the electronics store.
John goes there **three times a week**.

What kind of ... ?

This is a way to ask about something so that we can tell it from other types of the same thing.

What kind of MP3 player ...?
What kind of car ...?

It's a **small, 10-gigabyte memory** one.
It was a **Toyota sport-utility vehicle**.

What... like?

This is a way to ask for a very general description.

What is the weather **like** there?
What is John **like**?

It's **hot and humid**.
He's a **very friendly person**.