

FR

FRENCH LESSON

Question Words

? Question Words — Les Mots Interrogatifs

Six short conversations built entirely around asking questions — meeting someone, shopping, giving directions, and making plans. Natural, everyday French question forms.

① Meeting Someone New — Faire connaissance

A:

Salut ! Comment tu t'appelles ?

Hi! What's your name?

B:

Je m'appelle Claire. Et toi, qui es-tu ?

I'm Claire. And you, who are you?

A:

Moi, c'est Marc. Enchanté !

I'm Marc. Nice to meet you!

② Asking the Time — Demander l'heure

A:

Excuse-moi, quelle heure est-il ?

Excuse me, what time is it?

B:

Il est trois heures et demie.

It's half past three.

A:

Merci ! Et à quelle heure commence le film ?

Thanks! And what time does the film start?

B:

Il commence à quatre heures.

It starts at four o'clock.

③ At the Market — Au marché

A:

Bonjour, combien coûtent ces pommes ?

Hello, how much do these apples cost?

B:

Deux euros le kilo.

Two euros a kilo.

A:

④ Asking for Directions — Demander son chemin

A:

Pardon, où se trouve la gare ?

Excuse me, where is the station?

B:

C'est tout droit, puis à gauche.

It's straight ahead, then left.

A:

Comment est-ce que j'y vais à pied ?

Et quel fromage me conseillez-vous ?

And which cheese do you recommend?

B:

Le camembert, il est délicieux aujourd'hui.

The camembert, it's delicious today.

How do I get there on foot?

B:

Ça prend environ dix minutes.

It takes about ten minutes.

⑤ Explaining Why — Expliquer pourquoi

A:

Pourquoi apprends-tu le français ?

Why are you learning French?

B:

Parce que ma famille est française.

Because my family is French.

A:

Depuis quand étudies-tu la langue ?

Since when have you been studying the language?

B:

Depuis deux ans déjà.

For two years already.

⑥ Making Plans — Faire des projets

A:

Quand est-ce qu'on se voit ce week-end ?

When are we seeing each other this weekend?

B:

Samedi, si tu es libre.

Saturday, if you're free.

A:

Avec qui d'autre viens-tu ?

Who else are you coming with?

B:

Avec ma sœur et son copain.

With my sister and her boyfriend.

Vocabulary — Le Vocabulaire

20 key question words and phrases. Interrogative adjectives (quel, quelle...) agree with the noun they describe; interrogative pronouns (qui, que, lequel...) do not change.

#	FRENCH	ENGLISH	TYPE	NOTE
1	qui	who	pronoun	refers to people; never changes form

#	FRENCH	ENGLISH	TYPE	NOTE
2	que / qu'	what	pronoun	object of the verb; used with inversion (<i>Que fais-tu ?</i>)
3	quoi	what	pronoun	standalone or after a preposition (<i>Avec quoi ?</i>)
4	qu'est-ce qui	what (subject)	pronoun	used when "what" is doing the action
5	où	where	adverb	
6	quand	when	adverb	
7	pourquoi	why	adverb	answered with " <i>parce que</i> " (because)
8	comment	how	adverb	also used for " <i>Comment ?</i> " = "Sorry, what?"
9	combien	how much / how many	adverb	<i>combien de</i> + noun for a specific count
10	combien de temps	how long	phrase	asking about duration
11	quel / quelle	which / what	adjective	agrees: <i>quel</i> (m.), <i>quelle</i> (f.)
12	quels / quelles	which / what (plural)	adjective	<i>quels</i> (m. pl.), <i>quelles</i> (f. pl.)
13	lequel / laquelle	which one	pronoun	replaces " <i>quel</i> + noun" already mentioned
14	quel âge	how old	phrase	<i>Quel âge as-tu ?</i> — <i>How old are you?</i>
15	à quelle heure	what time	phrase	for scheduled events
16	d'où	from where	phrase	<i>D'où viens-tu ?</i> — <i>Where are you from?</i>
17	depuis quand	since when	phrase	for an ongoing duration
18	avec qui	with whom	phrase	
19	de qui	whose / about whom	phrase	
20	qu'est-ce que c'est	what is it	phrase	asking to identify an object

Real French Tip — que vs. quoi: Both mean "what," but they're used differently. *Que* (shortened to *qu'* before a vowel) is used right at the start of a formal, inverted question — *Que fais-tu ?* ("What are you doing?"). *Quoi* is used on its own or after a preposition — *Quoi ?* ("What?"), *Avec quoi ?* ("With what?"). In everyday spoken French, people very often skip the inversion entirely and just add *qu'est-ce que* to the front of a normal sentence instead — *Qu'est-ce que tu fais ?* means exactly the same as *Que fais-tu ?*, just far more common in casual conversation.