

The Questioning Sentence

Learning about Interrogative Sentences

Reading and Discussion

Sentences must have two things to make complete sense:

1. **A Subject:** This is a noun or pronoun that shows **who** or **what** does the action in the sentence. A subject does not have to be a person. It can also be a place or a thing.

2. **A Verb:** This is the **action word**. The verb shows what the subject is, does or feels.

- Annie Sullivan taught Helen Keller how to communicate.

This sentence makes complete sense.

It has a subject, **Annie Sullivan**, and a verb, **taught**.

- How to communicate.

This is not a sentence. We don't know what happened or who it happened to. This is a fragment or a part of a sentence. Remember this:

- **Subject + Verb = Sentence**

There are four kinds of sentences:

1. **Declarative sentences** or Statements tell us something or state a fact. Most of the sentences we use are declarative. Declarative sentences always end with a period.

- Helen Keller learned to read Braille.

2. **Interrogative sentences** ask a question, and the end with a question mark. If the sentence asks a question and needs an answer, it is interrogative.

- Have you heard of Helen Keller?

3. **Imperative sentences** give a command, and they always end with a period.

- Read about Helen Keller tonight.

4. **Exclamatory sentences** express strong emotion or excitement.

- I won the role of Helen Keller in the school play!

Name _____

Date _____

Interrogative sentences are asking or questioning sentences. They usually begin with an asking word like **who**, **what**, **when**, **where**, **why** and **how**. They can also begin with words such as **could**, **should** or **would**.

An interrogative sentence is one that needs an answer.

- Who wants a cookie?
- Should we wear our raincoats today?
- How does a sewing machine work?

Did you notice the punctuation at the end of the interrogative sentences above? They all end with a **question mark**. When you see the question mark you know the sentence is an interrogative sentence.

What does an interrogative sentence do? It asks a question.

Name _____

Date _____

Activities

Activity A: Read the sentences below. If they ask a question, put a question mark at the end of the sentence. If they make a statement or give a command, put a period at the end of the sentence.

1. Would you like to visit Mount Rushmore
2. Did you know Gutzon Borglum designed the memorial
3. How many presidents are carved into the mountain
4. Mount Rushmore is located in South Dakota
5. Mr. Borglum used dynamite and pneumatic drills to carve the faces
6. Who are the presidents honored by the memorial
7. Why did Mr. Borglum carve the memorial
8. Many visitors come to Mount Rushmore every year
9. Have you ever been to Mount Rushmore

Activity B: Let's review interrogative sentences.

1. What does an interrogative sentence do? _____
2. What kind of punctuation is used to end an interrogative sentence? _____
3. Name the sentence that tells a fact or makes a statement. _____
4. Name the sentence that gives a command. _____
5. Name three asking words that might begin an interrogative sentence.
a) _____ b) _____ c) _____
6. Name the sentence that shows great excitement. _____

Activity C: Write an interrogative sentence beginning with the word **how**.

Name _____

Date _____

Answer Key

Activity A

1. Would you like to visit Mount Rushmore?
2. Did you know Gutzon Borglum designed the memorial?
3. How many presidents are carved into the mountain?
4. Mount Rushmore is located in South Dakota.
5. Mr. Borglum used dynamite and pneumatic drills to carve the faces.
6. Who are the presidents honored by the memorial?
7. Why did Mr. Borglum carve the memorial?
8. Many visitors come to Mount Rushmore every year.
9. Have you ever been to Mount Rushmore?

Activity B

1. What does an interrogative sentence do? It asks a question.
2. What kind of punctuation is used to end an interrogative sentence? Question mark
3. Name the sentence that tells a fact or makes a statement. Declarative
4. Name the sentence that gives a command. Imperative
5. Name three asking words that might begin an interrogative sentence.
Answers will vary.
6. Name the sentence that shows great excitement. Exclamatory

Activity C

Answers will vary.