

What ... ? Which ... ? How ... ? (questions 4)

A

What + *noun* (What color ... ? / What kind ... ?, etc.)

- What color is your car?
- What size is this shirt?
- What time is it?
- What kind of job do you want? (or What type of job ... ? / What sort of job ... ?)
- What color are your eyes?
- What nationality is she?
- What day is it today?

What without a noun:

- What's your favorite color?
- What do you want to do tonight?

B

Which + *noun* (things or people):

- Which train did you catch – the 9:50 or the 10:30?
- Which doctor did you see – Doctor Lopez, Doctor Gray, or Doctor Hill?

We use **which** without a noun for things, not people:

- Which is bigger – Canada or Australia?

We use **who** for people (without a noun):

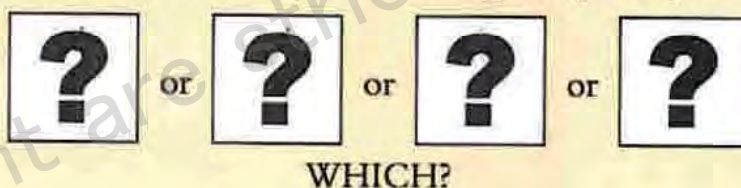
- Who is taller – Joe or Gary? (not Which is taller?)

C

What or **which**?

We use **which** when we are thinking about a small number of possibilities (perhaps 2, 3, or 4):

- We can go this way or that way.
Which way should we go?
- There are four umbrellas here.
Which is yours?



What is more general:

- What's the capital of Argentina? (of all the cities in Argentina)
- What kind of music do you like? (of all kinds of music)

Compare:

- What color are his eyes? (not Which color?)
Which color do you prefer, pink or yellow?
- What is the longest river in the world?
Which is the longest river – the Mississippi, the Amazon, or the Nile?

D

How ... ?

- "How was the party last night?" "It was great."
- "How do you get to work?" "By bus."

You can use **how** + *adjective/adverb* (**how tall** / **how old** / **how often**, etc.):

"How	<p>tall are you?" "I'm five feet 10." (5 feet 10 inches or 1.78 meters)</p> <p>big is the house?" "Not very big."</p> <p>old is your mother?" "She's 45."</p> <p>far is it from here to the airport?" "Ten miles." (about 16 kilometers)</p> <p>often do you use your car?" "Every day."</p> <p>long have they been married?" "Ten years."</p> <p>much was the taxi?" "Ten dollars."</p>
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48.1 Write questions with *What* . . . ?

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| 1. This shirt is nice. | (size?) <u>What size is it?</u> |
| 2. I want a job. | (kind?) <u>What kind of job do you want?</u> |
| 3. I have a new sweater. | (color?) What _____ |
| 4. I got up early this morning. | (time?) _____ get up? |
| 5. I like music. | (type?) _____ |
| 6. I want to buy a car. | (kind?) _____ |

48.2 Complete the questions. Use *Which* . . . ?

1. Which way should we go?

2. _____ is yours?

3. _____ do you want to see?

4. _____ goes downtown?

48.3 Write *What/Which/Who*.

- What is that man's name?
- Which way should we go?
Left or right?
- You can have tea or coffee.
_____ do you prefer?
- "_____ day is it today?" "Friday."
- _____ is your favorite sport?
- This is a nice office. _____ desk is yours?
- _____ is more expensive, meat or fish?
- _____ is older, Liz or Steve?
- _____ kind of camera do you have?
- A: I've got three cameras.
B: _____ camera do you use most?

48.4 Complete the questions with *How* + adjective or adverb (*high/long*, etc.).

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|--|---------------------|
| 1. <u>How high</u> _____ is Mount Everest? | Over 29,000 feet. |
| 2. _____ is it to the station? | Almost two miles. |
| 3. _____ is Helen? | She's 26. |
| 4. _____ do the buses run? | Every 10 minutes. |
| 5. _____ is the water in the pool? | Seven feet. |
| 6. _____ have you lived here? | Almost three years. |

48.5 Write questions with *How* . . . ?

- Are you five feet nine? Five feet 10? Five feet 11? How tall are you?
- Is this box one kilogram? Two? Three? _____
- Are you 20 years old? 22? 25? _____
- Did you spend \$20? \$30? \$50? _____
- Do you watch TV every day? Once a week? Never? _____
- Is it 2,000 miles from New York to Los Angeles? 2,500? 3,000? _____