

POLISH UP YOUR PUNCTUATION

Help sheet three: questions and question marks.

RULES

- 1. Questions ask for information**, eg “What time does school finish?”
- 2. Questions start with a capital letter and end with a question mark.** You can always spot a question by its question mark at the end.
- 3. You can spot a question because it starts with one of these “question words”:** who; what; where; when; why; which; will; would; should; could; can; did; do; how.

A. Write out these questions and answers, remembering to use capital letters, full stops and questions marks:

1. what is the capital of Albania
tirana is the capital of Albania
2. where would you pay for a drink with pesetas
you would pay for a drink with pesetas in Spain
3. what are the five continents of the world
the five continents of the world are Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Australia
4. what are the five oceans of the world
the five oceans of the world are the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Indian, the Arctic and the Antarctic
5. what is the highest mountain in the world
the highest mountain in the world is Mount Everest
6. what are world’s longest rivers
the world’s longest rivers are the Missouri-Mississippi in the USA, the Amazon in Brazil, the Nile in Egypt, the Yangtse in China and the Congo in Central Africa.

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7. what does Australia mean
australia means the “Southern Continent”
8. what are the national emblems of the USA
the USA’s national emblems are the eagle and the buffalo
9. what language do Mexicans speak
mexicans speak Spanish
10. which are the world’s largest islands
the world largest islands are Greenland, New Guinea,
Borneo, Madagascar and Baffin Land

B. Remember the “question words” over the page? Here they are again:

who	what	where
when	why	which
will	would	should
could	can	did

Make up a question which begins with each of these words. Do not forget to use capital letters and questions marks.

C. Rewrite the following passage correctly, putting in full stops, capital letters and question marks:

I crouched down beneath the shop counter as the policeman shone his torch through the window could he see me I wasn’t sure and shrank even further behind the boxes of crisps stacked on the floor where was Anita what was she doing hadn’t she said she was just going upstairs for a quick scout around that was at least 15 minutes ago what could have happened to her I began to panic and could feel my heart thudding under my tracksuit top thank goodness it was navy and mum had refused to buy me a bright yellow one after all! the police man moved on “Anita, are you all right” I hissed up the stairs