



WH - questions ?

Interrogative sentences (questions) are generally divided between open questions, which ask whether or not something is the case, and close questions, which ask you to say yes or no, and closed questions, which specify the information being asked during a generalised search, who, how, etc.

Question words ?

WHQ used to obtain information about a person or people.

WHST used to request information about something or something.

WHERE used to obtain information about the location of a person or thing.

WHEN used to obtain information about the time period in which an action occurs.

WHY used to obtain information about the reason something happens, or the reason something does something.

HOW used to obtain information about the way something happens, or the manner or way something behaves or does something.

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Question structure ?

The good news is that questions are fairly consistent and follow a clear structure.

There are five main parts that you need to keep in mind:

- Question word (subject/object/information/quantity), or a question phrase (how long, how often)
- Auxiliary (or helping) verb (do/has/have) or modal auxiliary verb + verb (main verb)
- Subject (person/thing/thingness)
- Main verb (play, eat, buy, etc.)
- Object (after your question phrase)

Modal verbs ?

Modal auxiliary verbs are used to express functions such as:

- permission
- ability
- obligation
- prediction
- lack of certainty
- advice

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Modal verbs - probability ?

The most helpful thing for us regarding modal verbs is how they are used to indicate probability something that could be considered when writing your question to your audience.

There are five modal verbs ranked in order of highest to lowest probability:

- MAY** - Probability 100% (Doubtless or self-evident)
- SHOULD** - Probability 90% (Prediction for Future)
- COULD** - Probability 60% (Free ability / Suggestion)
- MIGHT** - Probability 50% or less
- WOULD** - Advice or Unpleasant prediction
- SHALL** - Offer or Suggestion
- CAN** - Availability or request

More info →