

What ... ? Which ... ? How ... ?

A What + noun (What colour ... ? / What kind ... ? Etc...)

- What colour is your car?
- What colour are your eyes?
- What day is it today?
- What kind of job do you want?
- What size is this dress?
- What time is it?
- What make is your TV set?
- What sort of job do you want?

What without a noun

- What is your favourite book?
- What do you want to eat this evening?

B Which + noun (people or things):

- **Which train** did you catch – the 7.25 or the 9.15?
- **Which Doctor** did you see – Doctor Dorian, Doctor Smith or Doctor House?

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

- **Which** is bigger – Canada or Australia?

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

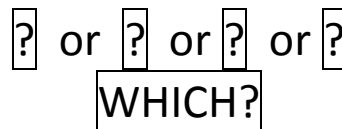
- **Who** is taller – John or Jerry?

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 shall we go?

- There are four cell phones.
Which is yours?



What is more general:

- **What** is the capital of Germany?
- **What sort** of music do you like?

Compare

- **What colour** are her eyes? (not 'Which colour?')

Which colour do you prefer, pink, purple or orange?

- **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 fantastic.'
- '**How** do you usually go to the University?' 'By bus.'

How + adjective / adverb (**How tall** / **how old** / **how often** ...)

'How

tall are you?' I am 1 metre 75
big is the house?' 'Not very big.'
old is your father?' 'I think he is 54.'
far is it from the station?' 'Five miles.'
often do you use your car?' 'Every day.'
long have they been married?' 'Twenty-one years.'
much was the meal?' 'Thirty-three pounds.'

