**Question time: Wh- questions**

by Jill Hadfield

**Level:** Elementary  
**Target age:** Secondary / adult  
**Time needed:** 15-20 minutes  
**Grammar objective:** To practise wh- question formation.  
**Materials:** One copy of the worksheet for each pair of students, pen and paper.

**Summary:** The first part of this activity is an accuracy-based pairwork matching activity, practising the correct use of auxiliary verbs in wh- questions. The second part is a communicative mingling activity which will provide fluency practice in using wh- questions.

**Before the lesson**

1. Copy and cut up one set of Question cards and one set of Auxiliary verb cards for each pair of students.
2. Keep the questions and the auxiliary verbs in two separate piles for each pair. Use paperclips or envelopes.

**Part 1**

1. Divide the class into pairs. Make sure each student has a piece of paper to write on.
2. Give out one set of Question and Auxiliary verb cards to each pair.
3. Tell them to take the set of Auxiliary verb cards (hold them up).
4. Tell them to spread them out on the desk (demonstrate).
5. Tell them to take the pack of Question cards (hold them up).
6. Tell them to place them face down in a pile on the desk (demonstrate).
7. Demonstrate the activity with one group while the others look on:
   - **Teacher:** Player 1 (point to a player) takes one card from the pile. (Demonstrate and wait for the student to do this.)
   - Put it face up on the table. (Demonstrate.)
   - Look here. (Point to the gap.) What word is missing? Can you find it? (Gesture to the auxiliary verbs spread out on the table.)
   - (Wait for the student to find it – help them if they have trouble.)

(Show the student how to put the verb card in the gap in the question card.)

*Read the question. Is that right?* (Help them if it isn’t right.)

*Okay, now write the answer.* (Get the student to write their personal answer to the question they have completed.)

10. **Part 2**

1. Collect up all the answer sheets.
2. Redistribute them so that everyone has someone else’s answers.
3. Tell students to walk round the class asking the wh- questions until they find the person whose answers match the answers on the sheet.
**Question cards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Where do you live?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you do?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What time do you get up?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where are you from?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is your favourite colour?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is your address?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is your telephone number?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is your date of birth?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How old are you?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where do you work?</td>
<td>________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Auxiliary verb cards**

- do
- is
- do
- are
- is
- do