

The Alien Grammar Show

Teaching Materials

EXERCISE 1

Draw the Alien

In pairs each student has to draw a simple alien on a piece of paper, without showing their partner the picture. The partner then has to ask questions about the picture and try to draw the picture too. Then compare the picture and see if they are the same.

Possible questions (you can think of others) –

How many arms does the alien have?

How many legs does the alien have?

How many heads does the alien have?

What colour is the alien?

Is the alien big or small?

Is the alien fat or thin?

Use comparative adjectives to compare your pictures.

(e.g. my alien is bigger, your alien has smaller eyes, etc)

EXERCISE 2

Play ‘Test That Alien’.

The game is simple and can be played in teams or with individuals. Exercises 2, 3, and 4 have lists of questions where the words are in the wrong order. One or team has to provide the correct answer. If they do the rest of the class shout ‘OK!’, if they don’t the class shout ‘Alien!’ and the team or person lose a point.

EXERCISE 3
Questions with 'to be'.

This table shows you how to make questions with the verb 'to be'. Some questions, for example 'How are you?' can be made with only the first three columns. Other questions like 'Are you meeting your boyfriend?' can be made by not using the first column.

Who		I	with
What	am	you	from
Where	are	she	doing
Why	is	they	listening to Scooter
When		the aliens	going
How		your friends	meeting your boyfriend

- i) *Make as many good questions as you can.*
- ii) *Look at these questions. The words are in the wrong order. Put them in the right order.*

you how are?

Name your what is?

Doing you what are?

Friends are where your?

Where from are the aliens?

With she is who?

Exercise 4

Questions with the auxilliary verb 'to do'.

This table shows you how to make questions with the auxilliary verb 'to do'. Some questions like 'Do the aliens go to school?' can be made by not using the first column.

Who		I	do.
What	do	you	live.
Where	does	she	watch Superstar.
Why	did	they	come.
When		the aliens	like.
How		your boyfriend	go to school.

- i) Make as many good questions as you can.
- ii) Look at these questions. The words are in the wrong order. Put them in the right order.

live you where do?

come you from do where?

how to they do school go?

she Lucie Bílá does like why?

the aliens did when come?

yesterday your Superstar did watch boyfriend?

Exercise 5

The difference between questions concerning the subject and the object of a sentence.

Look at this sentence.....

Barbie *sings* loudly on her birthday.

- If the answer to a question is 'on her birthday', the question has the auxilliary verb 'to do'.

When does Barbie sing loudly?

- If the answer to a question is 'loudly', again the question has the auxilliary verb 'to do'.

How does Barbie sing on her birthday?

- If the answer to a question is 'sings', again the question has the auxilliary verb 'to do'.

What does Barbie do on her birthday?

But.....

If the answer is 'Barbie' (i.e. the subject of a sentence) the question is does not have the auxilliary verb 'to do'.

Who sings loudly on her birthday?

Try to make questions from this sentence. If the answer is the subject, then you do not need to use 'do', 'does', or 'did', but if it is not the subject then you need to use 'do', 'does', or 'did'.

David writes love poems after school.

If the answer is 'love poems' the question is

What

If the answer is 'after school' the question is

When

If the answer is 'writes' the question is

What

If the answer is 'David' the question is

Who

Here are some more sentences to practice making questions with.

The aliens eat hamburgers. (3 questions)

They give flowers to their teacher once a year. (5 questions)

The Czech ice-hockey team won the world cup in Nagano in the year 2000. (5 questions)

Thank you for visiting The Bear Educational Theatre. We hope that you enjoy
The Alien Grammar Show!