

Talk a Lot

Australia

Sentence Blocks

1. (*Present Simple*) Jonathan often says that Sydney is the most perfect place on earth.

Who

2. (*Present Continuous*) The team's getting some amazing photos of koala bears, because they're so tame.

Why

3. (*Past Simple*) Kelly went wine tasting in Barossa Valley last Friday with her mate Gavin.

Where

4. (*Past Continuous*) We were climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge, when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle.

When

5. (*Present Perfect*) Rickie has seen almost every single episode of *Neighbours*, since it began in 1985.

How many

6. (*Modal Verbs*) Darren has to write an assignment about injured kangaroos.

What

7. (*Future Forms*) After Canberra we'll fly straight to Brisbane.

Where

8. (*First Conditional*) If the footy match is cancelled, we'll have a barbie instead!

What

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*Note: the last two lines of each sentence block will vary. Below there are examples given for each sentence block, but students should think of their own way to get the negative forms in the last line. See the **Talk a Lot Elementary Handbook** for full instructions (available free from www.englishbanana.com).*

Answers

1. (Present Simple) Jonathan often says that Sydney is the most perfect place on earth. / Who often says that Sydney is the most perfect place on earth? / Jonathan does. / Does Jonathan often say that Sydney is the most perfect place on earth? / Yes, he does. / Does Rachael often say that Sydney is the most perfect place on earth? / No, she doesn't. Rachael doesn't often say that Sydney is the most perfect place on earth.
2. (Present Continuous) The team's getting some amazing photos of koala bears, because they're so tame. / Why is the team getting some amazing photos of koala bears? / Because they're so tame. / Is the team getting some amazing photos of koala bears, because they're so tame? / Yes, it is. / Is the team getting some amazing photos of koala bears, because they're all asleep? / No, it isn't. The team isn't getting some amazing photos of koala bears, because they're all asleep.
3. (Past Simple) Kelly went wine tasting in Barossa Valley last Friday with her mate Gavin. / Where did Kelly go wine tasting last Friday with her mate Gavin? / In Barossa Valley. / Did Kelly go wine tasting in Barossa Valley last Friday with her mate Gavin? / Yes, she did. / Did Kelly go wine tasting in Milton Keynes last Friday with her mate Gavin? / No, she didn't. Kelly didn't go wine tasting in Milton Keynes last Friday with her mate Gavin.
4. (Past Continuous) We were climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge, when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle. / When did Alison slip and twist her ankle? / When we were climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge. / Did Alison slip and twist her ankle, when you were climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge? / Yes, she did. / Did Alison slip and twist her ankle, when you were coming out of a restaurant? / No, she didn't. Alison didn't slip and twist her ankle, when we were coming out of a restaurant.
5. (Present Perfect) Rickie has seen almost every single episode of *Neighbours*, since it began in 1985. / How many episodes of *Neighbours* has Rickie seen, since it began in 1985? / Almost every single episode. / Has Rickie seen almost every single episode of *Neighbours*, since it began in 1985? / Yes, he has. / Has Rickie seen only a few episodes of *Neighbours*, since it began in 1985? / No, he hasn't. Rickie hasn't seen only a few episodes of *Neighbours*, since it began in 1985.
6. (Modal Verbs) Darren has to write an assignment about injured kangaroos. / What does Darren have to write an assignment about? / Injured kangaroos. / Does Darren have to write an assignment about injured kangaroos? / Yes, he does. / Does Darren have to write an assignment about boomerangs through the ages? / No, he doesn't. Darren doesn't have to write an assignment about boomerangs through the ages.
7. (Future Forms) After Canberra we'll fly straight to Brisbane. / Where will you fly straight to after Canberra? / To Brisbane. / Will you fly straight to Brisbane after Canberra? / Yes, we will. / Will you fly straight to Adelaide after Canberra? / No, we won't. We won't fly straight to Adelaide after Canberra.
8. (First Conditional) If the footy match is cancelled, we'll have a barbie instead! / What'll we do, if the footy match is cancelled? / Have a barbie instead! / Will we have a barbie instead, if the footy match is cancelled? / Yes, we will. / Will we have a quiz night instead, if the footy match is cancelled? / No, we won't. We won't have a quiz night instead, if the footy match is cancelled.

Sentence Block Extensions

For all of the sentence block starting sentences there are at least two different wh- question words that can be used to make sentence blocks. In one case seven different sentence blocks can be made from the same starting sentence when using different wh- question words. There isn't room here to print in full all of the sentence block extensions from this unit. Hopefully, the answers given above will give you the teacher (or you the student) enough guidance to be able to make the sentence block extensions for this unit with confidence.

For example, let's look at the fourth starting sentence from this unit:

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We were climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge, when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle.

On the handout the wh- question word that is given is "When", but this starting sentence also works equally well with six other wh- question words: "What" (x2), "Where", "Who" (x2), "Which":

What were you doing when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle? / Climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge.

What were you climbing down, when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle? / Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Where were you when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle? / Climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Who was climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge, when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle? / We were.

Who slipped and twisted her ankle, when you were climbing down Sydney Harbour Bridge?

Which bridge were you climbing down, when Alison slipped and twisted her ankle? / Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The idea is easy. Change the wh- question word each time and you can make several completely different sentence blocks from the original starting sentence, simply by finding the relevant information for the answer in the starting sentence. As you can see below, sometimes the same wh- question word can be used more than once to make different sentence blocks.

You could cut out and give the section below to students:



Australia

Make new sentence blocks from the starting sentences in this unit using different "wh-" question words:

	WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	WHO	WHY	WHICH	HOW
1.	what (x2)	where	when			which	how frequently
2.	what (x2) what kind			who			how
3.	what		when	who (x2)			
4.	what (x2)	where		who (x2)		which	
5.	what (x2)			who			
6.	what (2 nd) what kind			who		which	
7.	what		when	who			
8.	what (2 nd)		when	who			

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