

Total English

Pre-intermediate

Make that question!

1 Make the following questions indirect using the words in brackets.

- 1 How much is that mobile phone? (Can/tell?)
- 2 What time does the plane depart? (Do/know?)
- 3 Where is the nearest bank? (Can/tell?)
- 4 Is our English teacher in school today? (Do/know?)
- 5 How is Eve feeling today? (Do/know?)
- 6 Which is the quickest way to the post office? (Can/tell?)
- 7 Is the café on the beach open today? (Do/know?)
- 8 Where is the town hall? (Can/tell?)

2 Fill in the following dialogue which takes place in the street using words and phrases provided.

can excuse me do say can do me you

- Josie: _____ (1), could I ask you a few questions?
Mrs Greenly: Of course!
Josie: _____ (2) you tell me how you travel to work?
Mrs Greenly: Yes, I drive to the station and then take the train from Cambridge to London.
Josie: _____ (3) you know how far the station is from your house?
Mrs Greenly: _____ (4) you _____ (5) that again please?
Josie: _____ (6) you know how far the station is from your house?
Mrs Greenly: Ah yes, it's five miles and takes twenty minutes in the rush hour.
Josie: Can _____ (7) tell _____ (8) how long your journey takes in total?
Mrs Greenly: Yes, one and a half hours door to door.
Josie: Great, thanks very much.

3 In pairs, imagine you are doing a street survey for a charity of your choice and you would like to raise interest in this charity. Decide on four indirect questions to ask passer-bys. Then roleplay the conversation.

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TEACHER'S NOTES:

Aim: to provide practice of indirect questions and polite questions. This worksheet is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 4.3.

Time: 40 minutes maximum

Materials: photocopies of the worksheet for each student.

- 1 Tell students to write the indirect questions using the cues provided. Monitor carefully to ensure students are using the form correctly. Give students time to compare their answers before checking them with the whole class.

Answers: 1 Can you tell me how much that mobile phone is?
2 Do you know what time the plane departs? 3 Can you tell me where the nearest bank is? 4 Do you know if our English teacher is in school today? 5 Do you know how Eve is feeling today? 6 Can you tell me the quickest way to the post office? 7 Do you know if the café on the beach is open today? 8 Can you tell me where the town hall is?

- 2 Ask students to complete the dialogue using the words/phrases in the box. Students can work in pairs or alone. Check answers by asking one pair to read their dialogue to the rest of the class. Encourage the other students to make corrections if necessary.

Answers: 1 Excuse me 2 Can 3 Do 4 Can 5 say 6 do 7 you 8 me

- 3 In pairs, students should use the dialogue from Ex. 2 as a framework for revising/practising using indirect questions. Students are free to make up their own questions here related to a charity of their choice. Monitor to check that the questions are indirect - otherwise, leave the students to have fun with their roleplay. If there is time, ask more confident/willing pairs to perform their dialogues to the rest of the class.

