

Indirect questions dice game

Roll a dice and ask your partner a question starting with the right indirect question starter below, making sure that the topic matches that starter. If your question is too personal (even as an indirect question), then your partner can refuse to answer with "I'd rather not say", "That's a bit personal", etc. You can also ask follow-up questions if you like, but make sure they are suitably direct or suitably indirect, and that they are not too personal/ not taboo.

- 1. Do you know...? (for questions that your partner might not have the answer to)
- 2. Do you happen to know...? (for questions that your partner probably can't answer, but could possibly answer)/ You don't (happen to) know..., do you? (for questions that your partner almost certainly can't answer)
- 3. Can I ask...? (for questions which might be a little personal/ which are on slightly taboo topics such as negative aspects)
- 4. I'd like to know.../ Can you tell me...?/ Could you tell me...? (for questions that your partner probably knows the answer to and which are clearly not personal/ not taboo)
- 5. Can I (just) check...? (for questions about extra details about something you already know about or something that you might not remember correctly)
- 6. I'd be interested in hearing... (for your partner's personal opinions and personal experiences)

Suggested topics				
academic subjects	contact details (address, email, phone, etc)			
countries	data/ figures/ numbers/ statistics			
departments/ sections/ teams	directions on how to get somewhere/ travel			
connections				
feelings	industries			
IT/ technology	jobs			
places (hometown, living place, local area, workplace, travel, etc) prices				
products/ services	regions	towns		

Share something that your partner told you, and see if other students can guess which question starter you used above.

Ask about anything above that you can't understand, couldn't use, etc, working together to make suitable questions each time.

Play the dice and questions game again, but this time with just the questions or just the descriptions below to help.

Just indirect question starters

- 1. Do you know...?
- 2. Do you happen to know...?/ You don't (happen to) know..., do you?
- 3. Can I ask...?
- 4. I'd like to know.../ Can you tell me...?/ Could you tell me...?
- 5. Can I (just) check ...?
- 6. I'd be interested in hearing...

Written by Alex Case for UsingEnglish.com © 2020/ 2024



Just descriptions of indirect questions

1.	?		
	(for questions that your partner might not have the answer to)		
2.	? (for questions that your partner prob		
	can't answer, but could possibly answer)/? (for		
	questions that your partner almost certainly can't answer)		
3.	? (for questions which		
	might be a little personal/ which are on slightly taboo topics such as negative aspects)		
4.	/?/		
	? (for questions that your partner probably knows		
	the answer to and which are clearly not personal/ not taboo)		
5.	?		
	(for questions about extra details about something you already know about or		
	something that you might not remember correctly)		
6.			
	(for your partner's personal epipions and personal experiences)		

(for your partner's personal opinions and personal experiences)

Without looking at the previous page, fill the gaps above with suitable question starters.

-----cover, fold or cut-----

Use the key words or mixed answers below to help with filling the gaps above. **Key words for indirect questions**

be	can/ could	check
do	don't	happen
hearing	I	ľd
interested	just	know
like	tell	you
		-

-----cover, fold or cut-----

Mixed indirect question starters

- Can I (just) check...?
- Can I ask...?
- Can you tell me...?
- Could you tell me...?
- Do you happen to know...?
- Do you know...?
- I'd be interested in hearing...
- I'd like to know...
- You don't (happen to) know..., do you?

Roleplay a whole conversation about places, using suitable indirect question starters when necessary.