

- **Question mark ?**

We use a question mark at the end of a sentence that asks a question.

How are you today?

It is used instead of a full stop, so the next sentence must begin with a capital letter. A question mark is **ONLY** used when the sentence asks a question that requires an answer. *Which shoes are best to take to the bush?* This sentence is a 'Direct Question' it asks a question that requires an answer.

She asked which shoes are best to take to the bush.

This sentence is an 'Indirect Question' it does not ask a question that requires an answer, so we do not use a question mark.

Question marks put expression into a sentence making it more exciting. If we did not have question marks, full stops, exclamation marks and other punctuation it would make reading difficult and boring.

- **Exclamation mark !**

1. An exclamation mark is used at the end of a sentence to mark surprise, humour or joy.

Look at that!
What a wonderful day!
Silly me!
Wow!

2. An exclamation mark can also show fear, anger, pain and danger.

Don't jump!
Ouch!
How dare you do that!

3. When someone is giving an order or is shouting, exclamation marks are used.

Stand up!
Attention!
Stop!

Exclamation marks make reading more exciting. Can you imagine what it would be like without exclamation marks, question marks, full stops and other punctuation marks?