

LESSON 19

Question Words

Seven keys open every conversation: what, who, where, when, why, how, which. Drop one into a statement — that's the whole grammar.

AFTER THIS LESSON YOU CAN...

- Fire all seven keys: chi, ki, kojâ, key, cherâ, chetor, kodum.
- Build real questions: Kojâ miri? Key miyâd? Kodum film?
- Spot the two you've known all along: chetor-i and chi-e.

THE PHRASE MAP

chi?

what?

ki?

who?

kojâ?

where?

key?

when?

cherâ?

why?

chetor?

how?

*chetori decoded***kodum?**

which?

soâl

question

*soâl dêram***Kojâ miri?**

where are you going?

*key + machine***Cherâ nemiyâi?**

why aren't you coming?

key + nemi-

DROP THE KEY IN

A Farsi question is a statement with a key dropped where the answer would sit: Miri Tehrân → **Kojâ** miri? · Miyâd fardâ → **Key** miyâd?

No auxiliaries, no word-shuffling. And two old friends decoded: **chetori** = chetor + i (how are you) · **chie** = chi + e (what is it).

THE SCENE — TWENTY QUESTIONS

SPEAKER	FARSI	ENGLISH
Leila	Bâzi — bist tâ soâl!	Twenty questions!
Sam	Chie? Ghazâ-st?	Is it food?
Leila	Na!	No!
Sam	Ki-e?	Is it a WHO?
Amir	Âre!	Yes!
Sam	Kojâ-st? Irân?	Where — Iran?
Leila	Âre — Tehrân!	Yes — Tehran!
Sam	Châyi dust dâre?	Do they love tea?
Amir	Kheyli!	VERY much!
Sam	Midunam! Mâmân Pari-e!	I know! It's Mâmân Pari!
Leila	ÂFARIN!	ÂFARIN!

NEW SMALL WORDS WORTH KEEPING

bâzi = game · -st after vowels = is (ghazâ-st, kojâ-st) · culture: age, rent, salary — personal questions are small talk in Iran, warmth not audit.

EXERCISES — PART 1

1 • Match

1. cherâ 2. kojâ 3. key 4. kodum 5. ki
a. which b. who c. why d. where e. when

2 • Drop the key

where + you go: _____ miri? · when + she comes: _____ miyâd? · which + film:
_____ film?

3 • Decode the old friends

chetori = _____ + _____ · chie = _____ + _____

4 • True or false

- a) Farsi questions reshuffle word order. (T/F) b) soâl = question. (T/F) c) Asking someone's age is rude in Iran. (T/F)

EXERCISES — PART 2

5 • You're Sam (out loud)

Ask why they aren't coming: _____? • Ask which bread: _____ nun?

6 • Twenty questions

Three yes/no probes for a mystery person: _____-e? • _____ dust dâre? •
_____ -st?

7 • Your interrogation

Ask a friend three real questions with three different keys: _____ • _____ •

8 • The game (out loud)

Play twenty questions with yourself about someone you know: five questions, five keys, out loud — then reveal: Midunam! ...-e!

- 1: 1-c • 2-d • 3-e • 4-a • 5-b
- 2: Kojâ • Key • Kodum
- 3: chetor + i • chi + e
- 4: a) F • b) T • c) F — it's warmth
- 5: Cherâ nemiyâi? • Kodum nun?
- 6: e.g. Ki-e? • Châyi dust dâre? • Kojâ-st?
- 7: any three keys, any real questions

NEXT — CHECKPOINT 2: SIXTY SECONDS ABOUT YOU

No new words. Sam records sixty seconds for Mâmân Pari, Tehran answers — and you record your own. Unit 2 ends here.