

Ask or Tell?

Sort sentences that ask from sentences that tell.

2.1 "Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, discussion, and thinking--oral language. The student develops oral language through listening, speaking, and discussion..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

ASKING

An asking sentence asks for information. It usually ends with a question mark.

Where is your red hat?

TELLING

A telling sentence gives information. It usually ends with a period.

My cousin has a green bicycle.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle ASKING or TELLING for each sentence, then pick two items and explain how you knew.

1. Can I use the blue crayon?

ASKING

TELLING

2. When does recess begin?

ASKING

TELLING

3. I brought my lunch today.

ASKING

TELLING

4. Why is the puppy barking?

ASKING

TELLING

5. Our class planted seeds.

ASKING

TELLING

6. The bus is late.

ASKING

TELLING

7. Do you know this song?

ASKING

TELLING

8. May I sit here?

ASKING

TELLING

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new asking sentence and one new telling sentence.

ASKING _____

TELLING _____

CHALLENGE

Write a telling sentence about an animal. Then write a question that asks for more information about that animal.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Can I use the blue crayon?	ASKING	It asks for permission.
2	When does recess begin?	ASKING	It asks for information about time.
3	I brought my lunch today.	TELLING	It gives information.
4	Why is the puppy barking?	ASKING	It asks for a reason.
5	Our class planted seeds.	TELLING	It gives information about the class.
6	The bus is late.	TELLING	It gives information.
7	Do you know this song?	ASKING	It asks for information.
8	May I sit here?	ASKING	It asks for permission.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **ASKING:** Where did Dad put the keys?
- **TELLING:** The clouds look gray.

Challenge: A turtle has a hard shell. Where does a turtle live?

ASKING: 1, 2, 4, 7, 8. TELLING: 3, 5, 6. For the proof responses, students may point to the question mark or explain that the sentence asks for information.