The 21 Questions Game is basically a way of getting to know someone better. At its core the the game is just asking and answering questions.

So, if you want to simply ask and answer the questions below, that works. But if you would like to gamify the questions, below are some different ways to play the 21 Questions Game.

How to play the 21 questions game

First of all, you need two or more people. There isn’t really a limit on how many people can play the 21 Questions Game, but I wouldn’t recommend any more than eight people. It gets a little boring for those not answering or asking questions if there are more than eight people.

The classic

Someone volunteers or a person is randomly chosen to be the first person to answer the 21 questions. The rest of the group takes turns asking that person a total of 21 questions. Your group can choose whether follow questions to their answers count towards the 21 questions total.

OPTIONAL: The person can pass on two questions.

To choose the next person to answer the 21 questions there are several options. The person who just finished answering the questions can nominate the next person, a person can volunteer, or a random person can be chosen.

If it’s just two people, person A will ask 21 questions and person B will answer. After person A asks 21 questions, the roles are reversed, and person B asks 21 questions.

Ricochet

Person A chooses a question to start the round. Person A asks person B the question. Person B answers. OPTIONAL: Everyone in the group can ask follow up questions to person B about their original answer.

Person B then chooses a question and asks someone else besides person A their new question. The round continues with everyone asking someone new a question until everyone including person A has answered a question.

No one can be asked twice until everyone has answered a question in that round. To start a new round the last person who answered a question chooses a new question to ask someone.
OPTIONAL: Everyone gets two passes. If a person uses one of their passes, they don’t have to answer the question.

Obviously, if it’s just two people, they will just be asking each other questions back and forth.

**Round and round**

Sit in a circle (or face to face if it’s just two people). Person A chooses a question, the person to the right of person A answers the question, then the next person in line answers, and so on until it gets back to Person A. When it gets back to person A, they answer. Optional: Give time for follow questions to people’s answers.

After person A finishes their answer, the person next to them asks a question and it goes around the circle again.

Optional: Everyone has two passes that they can use if they don’t want to answer a question.

If it’s just two people, they will take turns choosing questions that both of them will answer.

**Some things to remember**

Don’t worry if the game breaks down into a conversation. That is the whole point of the 21 Questions Game is to facilitate conversation and find out new things about a person. So if a lively conversation gets going, don’t worry about getting back to the game. You can always start up again after the conversation dies down.

**21 Questions list**

1. What is the TLDR version of your life?
2. What should they teach in high school but don’t?
3. What inscription do you want on your gravestone?
4. What is a cause that is worth dedicating your life to?
5. What should parents stop teaching their children?
6. How much do you change when you know no one is around?
7. How much do you know about the world outside your country?
8. Which movie or book do you think is ridiculously overrated?
9. Who would you most like to sit next to on a 10-hour flight and why?
10. What are two things you know you should how to do but don’t?
11. What is something you’ve done that you wish you could undo?
12. What do most people think about you that is absolutely not true?

13. What is something that can’t be taught and can only be learned with age?

14. Do you think the convenience of technology is worth the loss of privacy that comes with it?

15. What are the consequences of everyone having instant distraction at their fingertips?

16. What makes you say, “What was I thinking?” when you look back on your life?

17. If you could live your life again knowing what you do now, what would you change?

18. Is it okay to sacrifice one life to save ten? If you said yes, would you change answer if the one life was a friend’s life and the ten were strangers? If no, why not?

19. You have $100 to burn, all your friends are busy, and you have the whole day to yourself, what do you do?

20. How useful would you be in a zombie apocalypse? What skills do you have that would help you and others survive?

21. If you could be born again and choose what nationality, gender, and race to be, what would you choose? Why?

More questions at conversationstartersworld.com