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Test Your Grammar Skills

50 Polite Phrases for Beginning Indirect Questions

POLITE PHRASE + WH- QUESTION WORD *or* IF / WHETHER

Excuse me...

Can I ask — e.g. 'Can I ask you what time **it is**?' *not* 'What time **is it**?' (direct)
Can you explain
Can you say
Can you tell me
Could you possibly tell me
Could you tell me
Did (name) tell you
Didn't anybody inform you about
Does anybody know
Do you happen to know
Do you know
Do you mind if I ask you
Do you recall
Do you remember
Has (name) told you
Have you got any idea
Have you heard
I cannot recall
I can't imagine
I can't remember
I don't know
I don't seem to be able to recall
I have no idea
I just can't understand
I'm asking you
I'm not sure
I'm ringing to ask
I'm writing to ask
Is there any chance of you telling me
Is there any possibility that you could tell me
It's funny, but I can't remember
It would be great if you could let me know
I've always wondered
I've been meaning to ask you
I've been wondering
I was hoping that you could fill me in on
I was wondering
I was wondering whether you would be so kind as to let me know
I wonder if you could tell me
I would be very interested to know
I would like to know
I would love it if you could tell me
I would love to know
May I ask you
May I enquire as to
(name) wants to know
Will you ask (name)
Would you be able to ask (name)
Would you mind informing me
Would you mind telling me

...please (?)

(and many other phrases using the above words in different combinations!)

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