

Name: _____

Reporter's Notebook

You can use these questions as a guide to interview a family member or another person. There is room for you to add your own questions. Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.



Date: _____

Topic: _____

Name of interviewee: _____

Age: _____

1. Where were you born? What do you recall about the house in which you grew up? What are your favorite childhood memories?
2. What are some jobs you've had? What have you learned from them?
3. What has been your happiest moment? your saddest? Why?
4. How has your life been different from what you expected it to be?
5. If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be?

Add your own questions below.

6. _____





7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Interview Tips

-  **Choose the right spot.** A busy restaurant at lunchtime isn't a good place to conduct an interview. Arrange to have a quiet setting.
-  **When in doubt, ask.** Have your subject spell his or her name to ensure accuracy. Ask the person to speak more slowly if you're having trouble keeping up. Don't be afraid to ask someone to elaborate if he or she gives a yes or no answer.
-  **Take notes.** Even if you're using a tape recorder or camcorder, write your impressions of your subject. What does he or she look like? What does his or her voice sound like?
-  **Be courteous.** Don't interrupt or rush your subject. At the end of your interview, thank the person for his or her time. Ask if he or she knows anyone else you could interview about the topic.

If you're interviewing someone from your community or want ideas for questions, visit storycorps.net/participate/question_generator.