



How to Formulate Questions and Create a Script

1. Sit down and brainstorm questions to ask your interviewee. Questions must be adapted to the interviewee's individual experience. They should be neutral, non-controversial, easy to understand and open-ended.
Example: Tell me about...?
2. You want your questions to be short and their answers to belong. These types of questions should always start with Who, What, Where, When, Why and How? Examples: Why was...? Why wasn't...? How did...? What was...?
3. Ask your interviewee questions on historical moments that have taken place in their lifetime. Make sure to get the names and dates of the people and places they speak of.
4. Avoid Questions that lead the interviewee. Instead of: "Was the neighbourhood you grew up in poor?" Say: "Tell me what it was like growing up in your neighbourhood."
5. Ask for details. Example: Describe... Explain... Tell me more about...
6. Follow up on ideas. Example: What else can you tell me about...? Who else...? Which other reasons...?
7. Systematize Information. Example: You said that...Tell me more about that? We spoke about...What else can you describe about it?

8. At the end of the interview ask them thought questions. Example: Of all the experiences you have had in your life, which do you think shaped you the most? How do you feel about this interview? These types of questions will cause them to reflect over their responses and/or life and possibly remember something they had not yet talked about.

9. Pick the best questions from your brainstorming list and place them in chronological order. This will help the interview feel more like a conversation than an interrogation and will help it to flow effortlessly.