

Preparing for an Interview

The goal of an interview is to preserve and document a person's story for future generations. In this activity, learners practice writing and asking thoughtful questions and learn how to conduct themselves during an interview. This prepares them to [interview a family member](#) and record their family's story.

Discussion Questions

Watch this [video](#) (1.30–6.10) and discuss why this is an example of a successful interview:

- How can interviews help us learn about someone's life or experiences?
- What makes interviews different from other ways of learning information (books or videos)?
- What kinds of details can an interview capture that other sources might miss?
- Why is it important for an interviewer to ask thoughtful questions?
- How does good listening improve an interview?
- What responsibility does an interviewer have when sharing someone else's story?
- How can interviews help connect people from different generations or backgrounds?

Group Activity

Using the [Interview Guidelines and Questions](#), learners prepare to interview a classmate. In pairs, the learners conduct interviews, with one student acting as the interviewer and the other as the interviewee. The pair then switch interview roles in order to understand asking and answering interview questions.