

**[Interviewing with Informed Questions](http://www.kuzmich4.com/Facebook/Interviewing%20Questions.pdf)**: Accelerating Your Genealogy Pursuits at <http://www.kuzmich4.com/Facebook/Interviewing%20Questions.pdf>

One of the best ways to bridge the generation gap in family history is to interview those who have lived long lives. Interviews are more effective when you use informed questions, which can be open or closed in nature. This article by *Genealogy Today* at <https://www.genealogytoday.com/articles/reader.mv?ID=504> explores informed questions and how you can use them to shape successful interviews with others. You can find more resources for family history interviews in Goal 3 at <https://www.thefhguide.com/project-2-memories03.html#a> of Project 2: Memories. (See all tips at <https://www.thefhguide.com/tip-of-the-day.html>)



**Closing Comments:** *Here are some handy strategies for interviewing relatives*

The art of interviewing relatives can be a short-cut for gathering important information about family members. This networking skill is essential for family history success. Where do you start preparing for your important family history interviews? For those of you who need to pursue more resources, see the previous May 5, 2021 Facebook posting at **Don't Miss These [Top Ten Family History History Interviewing Questions](#)**. Below are some select additional resources that can get you going ASAP.

100 Questions Every Family Historian Should Ask Their Relatives + a Free Printable List at <https://familyhistorydaily.com/free-genealogy-resources/family-history-interview-questions/>

You can choose to use all 100 questions for a very in-depth and wide-ranging interview – or you can pick and choose from the list and compile your own sequence of questions. In most cases, all 100 questions will be far too many and will overwhelm your interviewee. Instead, highlight the questions you really want to know and then ask more if the opportunity arises. Remember, an interview of this kind is a very personal experience and can be emotional for the person being interviewed. **Be sure to tailor your questions to your individual family member, leaving out those that may be irrelevant or upsetting** and adding in additional questions when needed.

**Conducting a Family History Interview - American Ancestors**

<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/conducting-a-family-history-interview>

Conducting a **Family History Interview** · Childhood Years · When and where were you born? · Who were you named after? · Where did you live? How did your family come ...

**[Interviewing Questions and Prompts for Family History ...](#)**

<https://familyhistorydaily.com/free-genealogy-resources/family-history-interview-questions/>

Childhood · What's your first memory? · Who were you closest to in your **family**? · What values and beliefs did your parents teach you? · How did your parents ...

### **[40 Family History Interview Questions To Ask Your Loved Ones](https://www.rosy.com/blog/family-history-interview-questions)**

<https://www.rosy.com/blog/family-history-interview-questions>

Basic **family history interview questions** · What is your full name (First, Middle, Surname)? · Did you have any nicknames or aliases you went by? · Has your birth ...

### **[Questions for Interviewing Family Members - Ancestry Support](https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Interviewing-Family-Members)**

<https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Interviewing-Family-Members>

Who were the oldest members of your **family** that you knew personally? · Do you know their whole names? · Did your parents talk about any of their ...

### **[150 questions to ask family members about their lives](https://www.deseret.com/2014/2/11/20534743/genealogy-150-questions-to-ask-family-members-about-their-lives#here-are-ideas-of-questions-to-ask-when-interviewing-a-family-member-about-their-history)**

<https://www.deseret.com/2014/2/11/20534743/genealogy-150-questions-to-ask-family-members-about-their-lives#here-are-ideas-of-questions-to-ask-when-interviewing-a-family-member-about-their-history>

Share All sharing options for: **Genealogy**: 150 **questions** to ask family members about their lives · What is your full name and why were you named ...

### **[117 Interview Questions to Ask Your Family - MyHeritage Blog](https://blog.myheritage.com/2017/03/questions-to-ask-your-family/)**

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2017/03/questions-to-ask-your-family/>

Do you share a name with someone else in the **family**? · Did you have a nickname growing up? If so, what was it and why? · Have you had a ...

### **[56 Family History Questions for Your Parents - Modern ..](https://www.modernheirloombooks.com/new-blog/2020/3/28/50-essential-questions-to-ask-your-parents-to-capture-your-family-history)**

<https://www.modernheirloombooks.com/new-blog/2020/3/28/50-essential-questions-to-ask-your-parents-to-capture-your-family-history>

Life Transitions & Milestones · Tell me about your first job. · Did anyone ever throw you a surprise party? · How did you feel on your wedding day?

### **[50 Questions to Ask Relatives About Family History – ThoughtCo](https://www.thoughtco.com/fifty-questions-for-family-history-interviews-1420705)**

<https://www.thoughtco.com/fifty-questions-for-family-history-interviews-1420705>

**Questions** About Their Childhood · What is your full name? · When and where were you born? · How did your **family** come to live there? · Were there .



# MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING

<b>R</b>	<b>RESIST</b> telling them what to do. Avoid telling, directing, or convincing your friend about the right path to good health.
<b>U</b>	<b>UNDERSTAND</b> their motivation. Seek to understand their values, needs, abilities, motivations and potential barriers to changing behaviors.
<b>L</b>	<b>LISTEN</b> with empathy: Seek to understand their values, needs, abilities, motivations and potential barriers to changing behaviors.
<b>E</b>	<b>EMPOWER</b> them: Work with your friends to set achievable goals and to identify techniques to overcome barriers.

## Interviewing

### DO'S & DON'TS

- DO:** Prepare questions in advance, Listen actively, Be professional, Show interest, Be clear and concise, Follow up.
- DON'T:** Ask leading questions, Interrupt, Ask too many questions, Be negative, Rush the interview, Ask for a job on the spot.

Describe a typical family dinner.

What was your proudest moment as a parent?

What world events had the greatest impact on your family?

How did you meet your spouse?

What was your school experience like?

What is your earliest childhood memory?

**Family History Questions to Ask Your Relatives**

ThoughtCo.

