

The Interview



1. You must answer WHY?

- Why is it important to see/hear about this person?
- What is unique or special about this person?

2. “WHY” must be answered in the set-up

- Set-up must answer the 5 W’s and H:
 - WHO?
 - WHAT?
 - WHEN?
 - WHERE?
 - WHY?
 - HOW?

3. Ask OPEN ENDED questions

- Avoid questions which begin with “Do, Does, Did, Is, Are, Was, Were”
- Begin questions with “What? Why? How? Tell me....”

4. Get your interviewee ready:

- Tell him/her the information you will be asking about.
- DO NOT share the actual questions you will use, as you will tend to get canned responses.

5. The Questions:

- Pre-plan 5 - 7 questions
 - Write them down.
 - DO NOT lock into them.
 - Stay open for follow-up questions.
- Don’t ask multi-faceted questions. (E. G. “Were you surprised at making 1000 digs, and if so, why?”)

6. Your job includes:

- Making the interviewee feel comfortable
- Tell him/her where to sit and where to look
- Tell him/her to ignore the camera
- Tell him/her what to do at the end of the interview.

7. Know your questions

- You must not read them
- Look at the interviewee as you ask the question, and as they answer.

8. Plan out opening and closing comments!



In your notebook, list:

1. School activities you have been or are in.
(band, football, soccer, yearbook, theater)
2. Awards or honors earned in school/activities.
(trophy for _____, record in _____, writing award)
3. Three Different places you have vacationed
(Yellowstone, BWCA, Disneyland, Jamaica)
4. Three of the most significant events in your life,
which have had a dramatic impact on you.

In your notebook, list:

5. Three hobbies or interests you have.
(photography, baseball cards, rock climbing)
6. If you had to talk about ONE of the above, which one would be: (answers can be the same)
 - a. Interesting for an audience? _____
 - b. Valuable for an audience? _____
 - c. Give you the most opportunity to share? _____