



## Sample Interview Questions

Here are some sample questions that you can use to start planning your interview. Every family is unique and you can think of your own questions that are tailored to fit your family's experiences and personality.

- When and where were you born?
- What do you remember most about your childhood?
- Where did you live and go to school? What were your favorite subjects?
- Was there a teacher or other adult who had a strong influence on your life growing up? Tell me about them.
- What did you want to be when you grew up?
- What did you and your siblings do in your spare time?
- Tell me about your parents. What did they do for a living?
- Can you describe the house you grew up in?
- How did you meet your husband/wife? What drew you together?
- Describe your children. Were they the same as children as they are now?
- Did you and your family have any special traditions, such as things you did on holidays or birthdays?
- Are there any family heirlooms that you would like to talk about? Why do you think they have been kept and passed down from generation to generation?
- Are there any special foods that you remember from your childhood? Do you still make any traditional family foods?
- What historical events do you think have affected you/our family the most? Why?
- Where did our family come from? Did you hear stories about our early ancestors and why they came to the United States?
- What was your first job? How did you get from that job to the job you have now/job you are retired from?
- Are there any physical characteristics that people in our family share? Who do you think it originates from?
- Who do you think you resemble the most in our family? Why?
- Are there any classic family stories, jokes, or songs that have been passed down?

- If you could do anything now, what would you do? Why?
- What has provided you with the greatest satisfaction in your life?
- How would you say the world has changed since you were young?
- For future generations listening to this recording years from now, is there any wisdom you'd like to pass on to them? What would you want them to know?