



Living History: Asking the right Questions Worksheet 1

Try to ask open ended questions, these are questions which can't be answered by a simple yes/ no or one word answer, for example:

Q. How many sisters did you have?

A. 2

Q. Did you like going out when you were younger?

A. Yes

If you ask the right questions, in the right way, you will help your interviewee to reminisce and will find out much more information. Here are some examples of more open questions:

Q. Can you describe what your sisters were like?

A. My younger sister Beatrice was very silly, she was four years younger than me and was always smiling and laughing. My older sister was very kind, she looked after us both, although she could be very bossy!

Q. What did you do when you went out as a youngster?

A. We'd play games with other children in the street, like hop scotch and skipping. Sometimes we'd go to the pictures, we loved going to see films, it was so magical.

Exercise: Try to find 2 open alternatives to the different questions below:

Q. Where did you grow up?

Open Q 1. _____

Open Q 2. _____

Q. Did you like school?

Open Q 1. _____

Open Q 2. _____

Q. Where did you get married?

Open Q 1. _____

Open Q 2. _____