

What would you like to know?

Interviewing an older person about their childhood

Do you know an old person? I mean a really old person?

Your gran or grandad would be the ideal age but maybe you know someone a bit older than that?

Have you ever wondered what life was like for them when they were your age?

Or, have they always been old because you don't remember them when they were young?



2 minute challenge

Questions to think about and answer.

- Who are these people?
- Are they husband and wife?
- Where are they/what are they doing?
- What have they experienced in life?

Think quickly and write down some bullet point answers.



Hands up if you know what these 7 objects are



Mystery objects

- You may not have known many or all of the objects on the previous slide but, I bet your gran or grandad would have.
- Have a discussion about some questions you might like to ask them about their childhood, growing up, and adult life and start to make a list of them.
- Here are some examples.....

Some possible questions

- How many rooms were in your house and how many people?
- Did you have electricity or hot and cold running water?
- How old were you when you left school and what did you do?
- What did you do in your free time?
- What were your school dinners like?
- Did you go on any school trips?
- Did you go away on holiday?
- What has been the biggest change in the village?

Possible questions

- It might be helpful to use categories or headings for your questions such as
 - - home life
 - - childhood
 - - school
 - - play/free time
 - - games
 - - technology/things that were new to them
 - - teenage years
 - - jobs

Your turn now!

- Equipment you will need:
 - - a sheet with your questions on it. You may want to give a copy to the person a few days before you plan on interviewing them, so that they have a chance to read the questions and think about their answer.
 - - a mobile phone or tablet to record the interview. Ask the person you are interviewing if they are happy to be filmed or if they would rather just have an audio interview. If you are borrowing a mobile phone or tablet from someone, please be very careful with it.

A few things to think

- You may want to have a short practice run with 1 or 2 questions so that you know how closely you need to sit to the person being interviewed in order for their voice to be heard loud enough.
- If you are doing an audio interview, find somewhere flat to sit the phone. If you are nervous or fidgety, the microphone might pick up your movements.
- You may also want to think about pausing your recording between questions so that you both can get organised for the next question.

Once you are finished

- You will need to transfer the recording from your device to a computer so that you can email it in to the school or upload it onto the app/website/software that your school use. You may still be using the same app/website/software for school work as you were during lockdown.
- Ask your teacher what is the best way to send your video or audio file in to school.