

HOLOCAUST INTERVIEWEE QUESTIONS

Segment 1: For the record

Give introduction (sample follows based on Biography Data Sheet):

"Today is _____. I am _____ and I am interviewing
(interviewee's name) _____ at
(address) _____. (State relationship to interviewee) Mr/Mrs
_____ is _____. Mr/Mrs. is _____ old and was born on
_____. Mr/Mrs. _____ served in (war) _____. Mr/Mrs. was
in (unit) _____ and held the following rank: _____.

I. General Information & early years:

What is your full name?

Where were you born and when?

Where did you grow up?

What was your childhood like?

When did you begin school?

What was your school like? Was it a Jewish school?

II. Family Information:

Describe your family – your parents, grandparents, siblings . . . Give their names and approximate ages when the war began.

What did your family do as a profession? If they had a business – describe this.

Where were you and how old were you when the Nazis came to power?

When did you notice changes for your family? How did they affect you personally?

How did things change for you and your family as a result of the Nazi occupation?

How did/or did not observing the Sabbath change?

Did you have other friends or family who were similarly affected? What happened to them?

III. Life in camps or as a refugee . . .

What was day-to-day life like before you went into the concentration camp? (assuming this occurred . . . if not, use a different type of questions).

Were members of your family ever arrested by the authorities?

When was this and how were you arrested?

If you were sent to a Concentration Camp, where was it?

What was your very first impression of this?

What happened to your family members upon arrival?

How long were you in the concentration camp?

What was a regular day like in the camp?

What kinds of things did you do in the concentration camps?

How did you manage?

Did everybody in your family stay together or were you split up?

How were you treated by the soldiers?

How were you treated by others in the camp? Helped? Not helped?

Were you just in one camp or did you go to more than one?

When were you deported to the first camp . . . to another camp, etc?

IV. Post-War Experiences

When were you rescued or released from your camp?

Who rescued you?

What happened next?

Were you able to relocate family members? If so, where? If not, do you know what happened to them?

What happened post war? How did you end up in America?

Do you have any final comments?

V. Final Comments

Do you have any words of wisdom for this and future generations that you would like to share?