

WHAT A CHARACTER!
CONDUCTING AN INTERVIEW

Can't think of an idea for your writing assignment? Why not turn to your family, friends, or neighbors for help? A good interview can lead to all sorts of possible angles for an interesting composition. Simply arrange to talk with someone you know (or would like to know) for a period of about ten uninterrupted minutes. The answers you get can be the basis of 1) a biography of the person; 2) an analysis of his or her personality; 3) a factual in-depth report of one event in the person's life; 4) a fictional story based on something this person experienced; or 5) a short story using this person as the main character.

Printed below are some questions to help you get started on your interview. Take your notes in the space provided after each question and jot down any composition ideas that result from the interview.

Name of Subject _____ **Age** _____ **Date of Interview** _____

1. What are your main interests in life? _____

2. What is the most significant thing that ever happened to you? _____

3. If you could live *anywhere* in the world, where would you choose to live, and why?

4. If someone gave you a million dollars, what's the *first* thing you would spend it on?

5. What famous personality do you most admire and why? _____

6. If you had three wishes, what would they be? _____

7. Complete this statement: You'd never believe this, but I . . . _____

8. If you could be famous, what would you like to be famous for? _____

9. What is your favorite... food? _____ book? _____ hobby? _____
possession? _____ movie? _____ TV show? _____ song? _____

10. What do you see yourself doing in ten years? _____
