Short Interview of Older Person

1. What was your Grandparents’ life like?

2. What was your favorite form of entertainment?

3. Do you have an interesting life story?

4. What was your dream as a kid?

5. What was the best, hardest, weirdest, or funniest thing that happened to you?
Interview Questions for Parents or Older Person

Longer Version

1. Where were your Grandparents (parents) from?
2. Where you or Grandparents immigrants? And if so, why did you move? Why did Grandparents move to the US?
3. What was your Grandparents’ life like?
4. What was your life like?
5. When & where were you born?
6. Do you have an interesting life story?
7. How did your parents (Grandparents) meet each other?
8. What were your parents like?
9. What was your dream as a kid?
10. Did you have any little adventures when you were a kid?
11. Where did your family originate?
12. What were your favorite things to do when you were a kid?
13. What was your favorite form of entertainment?
14. Who was your best friend?
15. What was the best, hardest, weirdest, or funniest thing that happened to you?
1. What is your full name? Why did your parents select this name for you? Did you have a nickname?
2. When and where were you born?
3. How did your family come to live there?
4. Were there other family members in the area? Who?
5. What was the house (apartment, farm, etc.) like you grew up in? How many rooms? Bathrooms? Did it have electricity? Indoor plumbing? Telephones?
6. Were there any special items in the house that you remember?
7. What is your earliest childhood memory?
8. Describe the personalities of your family members.
9. What kind of games did you play growing up?
10. What was your favorite toy and why?
11. What was your favorite thing to do for fun (movies, beach, etc.)?
12. Did you have family chores? What were they? Which was your least favorite?
13. Did you receive an allowance? How much? Did you save your money or spend it?
14. What was school like for you as a child? What were your best and worst subjects? Where did you attend grade school? High school? College?
15. What school activities and sports did you participate in?
16. Do you remember any fads from your youth? Popular hairstyles? Clothes?
17. Who were your childhood heroes?
18. What were your favorite songs and music?
19. Did you have any pets? If so, what kind and what were their names?
20. What was your religion growing up? What church, if any, did you attend?
21. Were you ever mentioned in a newspaper?
22. Who were your friends when you were growing up?
23. What world events had the most impact on you while you were growing up? Did any of them personally affect your family?
24. Describe a typical family dinner. Did you all eat together as a family? Who did the cooking? What were your favorite foods?
25. How were holidays (birthdays, Christmas, etc.) celebrated in your family? Did your family have special traditions?
26. How is the world today different from what it was like when you were a child?
27. What was the oldest relative you remember as a child? What do you remember about them?
28. Is there a naming tradition in your family, such as always giving the firstborn son the name of his paternal grandfather?
29. What were your childhood heroes?
30. What was your favorite sports activity?
31. What were your favorite songs and music?
32. Did you have family pets? If so, what kind and what were their names?
33. What was your religion growing up? What church, if any, did you attend?
34. Were you ever mentioned in a newspaper?
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36. What world events had the most impact on you while you were growing up? Did any of them personally affect your family?
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