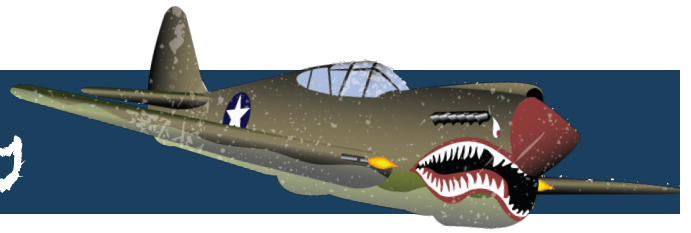


Collect an Oral History



You are the oral historian! Use these worksheets to collect your own oral history in your own home! Follow the instructions and tips below to carefully plan and conduct your interview.

Select an interviewee that is a part of a generation older than you. If possible, take the opportunity to interview someone who lived through the World War II era between the years of 1940-1947.

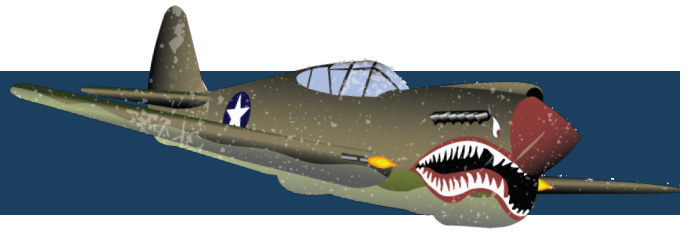
Instructions:

1. Read the **What Is Oral History** fact sheet.
--> This will help you familiarize yourself with the definition of an oral history and the goal of this field of study.
2. Read the **Guide to Oral History** booklet.
--> Follow this step-by-step guide while selecting a candidate, doing research, prepping materials, and conducting a respectful interview.
3. Use the **Oral History Interview Checklist** on the next page to prepare and conduct your interview.
4. Transcribe interview.

Why is this important?

Oral histories play a key role in shaping close-knit relationships with others. We know them simply as moments of conversation, reminiscing, or casual storytelling. They are so subtle, that many of us take them for granted while we still have access to them. Collecting these stories are our way of honoring the past and the people who lived before us.

Interview Checklist



Before Interview

- Determine your “mission” (what information you want to collect)
- Research potential candidates
- Select final subject (Interviewee)
- Research subject
- Create interview questions
- Send questions to subject for review
- Select “type” of interview (audio, video/audio, or written/typed only)
- Create list of needed gear (camera, recorder, microphone, etc.)
- Prepare gear before interview (charge batteries, test audio, etc.)
- Schedule interview with interviewee
- Create checklist for packing gear

On Interview Day

- Review gear checklist
- Set-up interview gear
- Record the name of the subject, interviewer (you), and the date
- Conduct interview with created questions
- Ask follow-up questions
- End interview, thank your subject
- Pack-up gear, review gear checklist
- Listen/watch interview
- Transcribe interview