

FreeTime Interview Questions

Before you start the interview can you **record your name, their name and the date**. Can you fill in the form that agrees for this interview be made publicly accessible, and both sign and date it. Remember to keep quiet and let the interviewee tell their history in their own words. Don't worry if you only manage to cover one or two sections, some people will have more to say than others and you might not have the time to go through all the questions below.

- 1. Would you mind introducing yourself and telling me when and where you were born?**
- 2. Can you tell me about how you spent your free time when you were a child?**
For instance how did you spend your weekends and after school?
What games did you play, how did you play this game, what were the rules, and where did you play.
 - Did you do these alone or with friends / siblings.
 - If you had a younger sibling did parents expect you to play or look after him or her.

Can you tell me about the TV programmes you watched, or radio you listened to. Or how about books you read, board games or toys you played with.

- What toys did you play with?
 - Did you have to do chores at home and did this work go towards the costs of your leisure activities, or towards toys you wanted, or did you get pocket money?
- 3. Can you tell us about any activities outside school which you considered part of your free time?**
For instance did you take part in any sports activities, or belong to organisations like Brownies, Cubs, Scouts, Guides, Red Cross, Sea Cadets, Woodcraft Folk, etc.
 - How often did you do these activities?
 - Did you enjoy it?
 - How long did you attend?
 - What sort of things did you do there?
 - Did many of your friends go; Who organised them; and how did you get there?
 - Were you forced to do these activities, e.g. learn piano, join brownies, etc.
 - 4. What did you get up to during your break times while at school?**

5. Did you play with friends or siblings in the street, or out in the countryside without adult supervision?

- Who did you play with?
- What rules were given by your parents about where you could go, what you could do and how long you could be out for?
- Were you allowed to go off all day on your own, or just with friends. Leaving home at breakfast and staying out till evening meal.
- Did you ever tell your parents you were doing one thing but actually doing something “naughty, illegal, etc.”
- Where did you go and how far did you roam?
- What games/activities did you play?

6. Can you tell us about about things you got up to in your leisure time as a teenager?

Were you ever a part of a youth movement (i.e. like teds, mods, rockers, hippies, skinheads, punks, goths, etc). If so can you tell us about what you got up to as part of this group; how did you dress, where did you meet and what did you do?

- Before the use of mobile phones how would you arrange to meet up? Would you just turn up and expect to see your friends, or would you set a specific time and place to meet?
- Did you regularly go to the cinema, or to a youth club?

7. As an adult can you tell me in your own words about what you used to do for fun or relaxation in your spare time?

For instance what local facilities did you frequent (i.e. pub, village hall, dances, ice skating, roller skating, cinema, theatre)?

- How often did you attend these places; where were they and how did you get there?
- How did you manage to fit your leisure activities in with your working life.
- Can you tell us about any of your hobbies and about the role it played in your life?

On finishing can you thank them for their time and tell them we will be contacting them once the exhibition is ready to go up at Dorset County Museum. This will be in March 2014.

www.freetimeourstories.org.uk

