

How to be a good reporter? Tips for conducting a great interview!

The wonderful, adventurous thing about interviewing is that, when you ask the right questions, you can learn a lot about someone. You can find out just what you are interested in, if you ask the right questions.

Here you find some tips on what to focus on during the interview and how you can refine your questions. Read this, and you will become a good reporter in no time!

Before the interview

1. Set your goal

Interviewing is sometimes about looking for the unknown. Make a plan with a few goals you want to achieve with the interview. Always try to reach your goals during the interview, however difficult.

2. Designing good questions

There are also many styles of questions. Avoid questions that can be answered with a simple Yes or No ('closed' questions). Try to include some of the questions below:

- Open-ended (e.g. "What did you learn during the World Starts With Me?")
- Be specific (e.g. "What exactly is the most important lesson from WSWM?")
- Ask for a personal point of view (e.g. "What does it mean to you to have had sexuality education?")
- Ask for more information (e.g. "Is there anything else you would like to add?")

3. Make a plan

Have a list of questions on paper, but try to have the most natural conversation possible.

During the interview

1. Share your expectations

Before the interview, inform the interviewee about your expectations. Briefly explain what you want to know and what your goal is for the interview.

2. Have your equipment ready

Make sure you have pen and paper for writing down the answers and maybe a recorder (e.g. in your mobile phone).

3. Listening is the key

It is very important to listen and have your questions come naturally. If the person says something interesting, you may want to embroider on it in exchange for one of the questions you prepared.

4. Eye contact

Make sure you have good eye contact and show the interviewee you are listening by nodding, not interrupting, and offering some facial or verbal encouragement like smiling.

After the interview

1. Express thanks

Be sure to thank the interviewee for sharing his or her story