**Interviewing Tips**

Jour2013 Spring 2017

Some useful phrases when we interview people:

**“Draw a Picture For Me"**

**"Tell Me More About That"**

**“What Does Off the Record Mean to You?"**

**"Give Me A Second To Write This Down."**

Some useful interview techniques:

**Short, direct questions**

**Shut up!**

**Memory aids**

**Look at the refrigerator door**

Interviewing: A Bibliography

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 --Video and tip sheets on interviewing by Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and University of Missouri School of Journalism professor

  --See also: <http://businessjournalism.org/2013/05/07/getting-the-goods-interviews-that-work-self-guided-training/>

Lindof and Taylor,  Qualitative Communication Research Methods, 3rd. edition, 2011

     --Useful chapter on interview transcription conventions

Metzler, Ken. *Creative Interviewing: The Writer’s Guide to Gathering Information by Asking Questions*. 3rd edition. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1996.

     —A well-regarded book on interviewing.

Paterno, Susan. “What To Do.” *American Journalism Review*. October 2000. <http://ajrarchive.org/article.asp?id=677>.

     —Nice summary of interviewing techniques by Canadian journalist John Sawatsky

     —See also, “What to Avoid” <http://ajrarchive.org/article.asp?id=678>

“Reporter’s Recording Guide | Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press,” August 28, 2012. <http://www.rcfp.org/reporters-recording-guide>.

     —50 state guide on legality of recording phone calls, etc.

Scanlan, Chip. “How Journalists Can Become Better Interviewers,” March 4, 2013. <http://www.poynter.org/how-tos/newsgathering-storytelling/chip-on-your-shoulder/205518/how-journalists-can-become-better-interviewers/>.

Thompson, Paul *The Voice of the Past: Oral History* (Oxford University Press, 2000), chp. 7, pp. 222-245

 —Useful discussion of interviewing. Dated discussion of recording gear, technology.

Wilkerson, Isabel, “Accelerated Intimacy,” in *Telling True Stories: A Nonfiction Writers’ Guide from the Nieman Foundation at Harvard University*. Kramer, Mark, and Wendy Call, eds. 1st edition. New York: Plume, 2007.

 —Wonderful essay on interviewing.

**Gear:**

Best portable audio recorder for the money. Can make broadcast quality recordings: **Zoom H2n Handy Recorder**

[http://www.amazon.com/Zoom-H2N-H2n-Handy-Recorder/dp/B005CQ2ZY6/ref=dp\_ob\_title\_ce](http://www.amazon.com/Zoom-H2N-H2n-Handy-Recorder/dp/B005CQ2ZY6/ref%3Ddp_ob_title_ce)

SoundNote Recording app

—Indexes your typing to the recording.

—For Mac, iPad

<http://soundnote.com/>