

# Interview Practice

In your film-making lessons, you are making a short documentary film featuring one or more interviews with someone about your chosen subject.

In this activity, your challenge is to plan, conduct and either record or capture some interview practise!

## Plan Your Interview

Decide who you could interview and what the subject will be about. Make a list of good questions in advance but remember that you can also improvise and change your questioning as you go.

Try these ideas if you're stuck:

- Interview a family member about one of the school debate hot topics - Should we have school uniform? What do you think of school dinners? What are your views about the school timetable? Do pupils receive enough homework? What school clubs currently exist and should there be others available?
- Interview a friend or family member about a particular skill or activity (after a football match, swimming, dance class, gymnastics or other sport; cooking or baking; skateboarding or computer gaming).
- Interview an older family member about their childhood and the differences, compared to today.

## Interview Skills

What are the skills involved in conducting a good interview?

Make a list of your top tips for being a great interviewer:

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## Camera Skills

Can you use a digital video camera?

Make a list of your top tips for being a great camera operator:

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## Recording Your Interview

- Don't worry if you do not have a digital video camera to use as there are lots of other ways you can record or document your interview.
- If you do have a digital device for filming, make sure you have permission to use it. Digital tablets will usually achieve the same results as a video camera. You could set up the camera on a stand or table to record, or get someone else to do the recording with you in shot. Alternatively, you could be the camera operator and just have your interviewee in shot while you ask the questions.
- If you don't have a digital recording device, you could ask someone to take a photograph of you conducting your interview or use a different device to just record the sound.
- Even without any digital device, you can document your interview by making a record of your questions and then notes for the answers given by your interviewee. Add details of who you interviewed, what the subject was and where the interview took place.