

Activity based interview protocol

This interview is intended for participants younger than 13 years old. This interview may be used with older participants where appropriate.

This interview can be conducted in the participants home, or in a clinical/ office setting. In the instance that the interview is taking place in a clinical/office setting, the participant will be asked to bring with them some of their favourite belongings, provided they are easy for the participant to bring to and from the interview. Participants in a clinical/ office setting will also be asked to take some photographs of things in their home that they like to show the interviewer at the time of the interview.

Please note: Any highlighted questions could be deemed as upsetting. These questions can be asked in the third person if it makes the participant more comfortable. Third person renditions of these questions will be italicised below the original question.

Part 1 - Looking at Photographs

The interviewer will ask the participant in a university or clinician's office if they would like to take some photographs of items around their home and some of their favourite belongings. The interviewer will ask the participant of each photo:

- What is this a photo of?
- Why did you take this picture?
- What is your favourite photo that you have shown me today? Why this one?

After the participants' photographs have been looked at and discussed, the interviewer will show the participant a series of photographs around certain themes and ask for their thoughts on each one:

Family Gatherings



- What is happening in this picture?
- Do you meet up with your family to eat or celebrate things?
- *Do you think people like doing things like this with their family?*
- When do your family have gatherings like this?
- *When do families have gatherings like this?*
- How do you feel when your family meets like this?

How do people feel when they have family gatherings like this?

Grandparents

NB. Photos of the participants' grandparents should be used here if provided to the interviewer ahead of the interview.



Grandmother examples



Grandfather examples



- What does this photo make you think of?
- Do you have grandparents? What do you call them?

Travelling



- What do these pictures make you think of?
- When was the last time you travelled abroad?
- Where were you going?
- Do you travel to see your relatives?

School

NB. These are examples - please use age and context appropriate pictures



- What language do you speak at school?
- Are there people in your school who speak the same home language?
- Do you hang out with other people at school?
- *Do children play together at school?*

- Do people make friends at school?
- What things do friends do together?

Speaking Different Languages



- What is happening in this picture?
- Do you know people who can speak more than one language?

Achievements



- What is something you did that made you feel proud/ good about yourself/ feel you have done something good?

Note: Here it would be helpful to ask their caregivers of some of the participants achievements to prompt the participant in the interview if necessary.

Check-in (5 mins)

Before moving on to the next portion of the interview, ask how the participant is feeling and if they are happy to continue to the next session.

Part 2 - Some additional questions (10 mins)

Being Bilingual

- What is it like being bilingual? - use this to prime - statement rather than question
- What are the parts of being bilingual that you like or find useful?
- What are the parts of being bilingual that you don't like?
- Do you have a language you prefer to use?

Bilingualism and Autism

- Does speaking more than one language make learning easier?

- Does autism affect how you learn languages?
 - *Does autism affect how autistic people learn languages?*
- Do you think speaking more than one language is affected by being autistic
 - *Do you think speaking more than one language can be affected by autism?*

Family Dynamic

- Who speaks more (insert language here) in your family?
- What language do your parents speak to you in?
- What language do you answer in?
- What language do you speak to your greater family in, like grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles?
- Do you have family that live abroad? How often do you see them?

Language Situations Give examples with these

- Do you think in one language at certain times?
 - Give an example
- Are there situations and places where you think in a particular language (make specific)?

Friendships & Hobbies

- Do you have friends that aren't from primary school?
- What activities do you do with your friends?
- When and where do you meet your friends?
- Are you a member of any clubs?
- Do you have any hobbies?
- Did you meet any of your friends through your clubs and/or hobbies?

Language & Feeling

- Do you think speaking more than one language helps you understand your feelings more?
- Do you use other languages to figure out how you're feeling?

- What language do you use when you're feeling happy, sad etc.

Check-in (5 mins)

Before moving on to the next portion of the interview, ask how the participant is feeling and if they are happy to continue to the next session. NB: let the participant know how well they're doing at answering all of these questions.

Part 3 - Kitchen and Meal Customs 15 mins

If at home, the interviewer will ask the participant for a tour of their kitchen. The participant will still have their camera device with them and will be reminded and encouraged to take photos and videos of anything they like while with the interviewer.

1. Can you give me a tour of your kitchen?
 - What are some of your favourite things to eat?
 - Who usually makes that for you?
 - Do you eat meals that are from where your parents are from?
 - Is there any (country specific food) that you like to eat?
 - Who usually does the cooking?
 - Do you like to help with cooking?
 - Do your siblings help cooking?
 - Can you show me where you eat? (This question is home-based specific)
 - Where does everyone else usually sit?
 - Do other members of your relatives, like your grandparents, aunties, uncles or cousins eat with you?
 - What language do they speak when they are here?
 - What language do your family members speak to you?
 - *Who usually would eat dinner together?*
 - *What language do you think they would speak together?*
 - *Is that the same language as you?*
 - Are there some foods you only eat on special occasions or celebrations?

- Do your friends eat similar foods to you?

Part 4 - Favourite Belongings 15 mins

In a university or clinician's office, the participant will be asked if they would like to bring some of their favourite belongings and devices with them to the interview to show the interviewer. In the home-based interview, the participant is asked to give a tour of their favourite belongings. They can take photos and videos of their favourites or one they're enjoying using at the moment.

- What are some of your favourite belongings?
- What do you like about this?
- When did you get this? (Nudge toward celebration days and trips abroad & celebrations)
- Was this a present from someone?
 - Yes → Who gave it to you
 - What language do they speak?
 - Do you speak the same language as them?
 - What language do you speak together?
 - What language do your siblings speak with them?
 - **Third Person Versions**
 - *Who would give someone a present like this?*
 - *What language would they speak?*
 - *Is that the same language you speak?*
 - *If you met that person, what language would you speak together?*
 - Do you have some things you like to use if you're feeling sad or to comfort yourself?
- Do you like to read books?
 - What books do you like to read?
 - What language are your books in?
 - Is that the same for your brothers and sisters?
 - Did your parents read you books or tell you stories?

- What language did they speak when they did this?

Electronic Devices

- Can you show me some of your electronic devices you like to use?
- What apps do you like to use?
 - Are you games in X or Y (language)?
 - Do you use the same apps as your siblings?
- Do you like to watch videos?
 - What kind of videos do you like to watch?
 - What language are they in?
- Do you listen to music on your devices?
 - Can you show me one of your favourite songs?
- Do you do any of these activities with your family (watching videos/ call your family?)