

Traditional, talking based interview protocol

This protocol is suitable for participants aged over 13 years and who are comfortable answering the questions verbally.

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 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?
- What language do you speak with your grandparents?

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?

Make these questions participant appropriate

School

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



- What do you think of when you look at these pictures?
- How do you feel when you look at these 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 does this picture make you think of?
- 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 - Longer Questions 15-20 minutes

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?*

Sibling Discrepancies (only asked if participant has siblings)

- Are you as bilingual as your siblings?
- Are they spoken to in the same language as you by your parents?

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, aunties and uncles?
- What's good about spending time with your family?
- What's not so good about spending time with your family?
 - *Do you think people like spending time with their family?*
- 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
- Do you find it difficult to relate(change this word) what happened in one language in your other language?
 - Give a scenario
- Are there situations and places where you speak one language?

- 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.
- Does how you are feeling influence what language you will speak or think in? For example, what language do you think in if you are feeling sad? What language do you think in when you are feeling happy?
- Do you think speaking more than one language helps you better understand how other people are feeling?

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 - Meal Customs 15 mins

- 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?
- Do other members of your relatives, like your grandparents, aunts, 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

- 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?)