

The StoryCorps Interview

Step by Step

Tips for a great conversation:

- Look at your partner, not the microphone.
- Stay interested and engaged.
- Be yourself; you can laugh or even cry.
- Emotional questions like “How does this make you feel?” often elicit thoughtful responses.
- Don't be afraid to ask.
- Be curious and honest and keep an open heart.
- Great things will happen.

Questions for a great conversation:

- What was the happiest moment of your life?
- What are you most proud of?
- Who was the most important person in your life?
- What are the most important lessons you've learned in life?
- What is your earliest memory?
- How do you want to be remembered?
- Who was your first love?
- Is there anything you've never told me but want to tell me now?

Visit storycorps.org for more suggestions.

01

STEP

Welcome (2 min) – The Facilitator will provide some background information about StoryCorps, explain his or her role in the interview process, and answer any questions you might have.



03

STEP

Sound check (4 min) – Once you and your interview partner are ready to proceed, the Facilitator will make sure you are positioned well for recording and check the audio levels.



05

STEP

Your CD (3 min) – When the interview is over, the Facilitator will give you a copy of the interview on CD. He or she will also explain the release form, which allows StoryCorps to keep one copy and send another to the archive at the Library of Congress.



02

STEP

Prep (6 min) – The Facilitator will walk you through the paperwork, which asks for basic personal information such as name, address, and ethnic background.



04

STEP

The interview (40 min) – While you and your partner are talking, the Facilitator will take notes, keep time, and monitor audio. Facilitators are not interviewers, though they may ask a question during the interview.



06

STEP

Photos (5 min) – Finally, the Facilitator will take photos of you and your interview partner, both together and separately. These photos will be included in the archive at the Library of Congress.



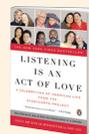
Get involved today!

Listen

- StoryCorps stories are broadcast weekly on [NPR's Morning Edition](#)
- The Listen Pages feature hundreds of stories at storycorps.org/listen
- The StoryCorps podcast is on iTunes and at storycorps.org/listen/podcast

Read

- Sign up to receive weekly stories by email at storycorps.org/ml
- Discover new people, places, and stories on our blog at storycorps.org/blog
- Purchase a copy of our *Listening Is an Act of Love* book and CD (sold separately), available wherever books are sold



Record

- **StoryKit** Rent a StoryKit to conduct up to four StoryCorps interviews at home.
- **StoryBooths** Visit our website for StoryBooth locations where reservations are open to the public year-round.
- **Do-It-Yourself** Use our free DIY Instruction Guide and your own equipment to conduct interviews at home. Visit nationaldayoflistening.org to get started.