

# Development and Planning Form

## EXPLORING ORAL HISTORIES



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Getting Started

Use the following guide as you develop and plan your Oral History Project. **Note:** After completion of sections 1 and 2 confirm with your teacher that your topic meets requirements and expectations.

### 1. Oral History Topic:

Select one or several related points from the timeline to form the topic for your project.

### 2. Pre-Interview Research:

What other historical events took place around or during the event/events you are researching? Were there any related social issues or events? What is the “official history” of the event/events? Is the event/events generally seen as good/bad? Beneficial? Useful?

What was going on in the world at the time of the event?

How did the media report about the event at the time?

How was society impacted by the event?

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### 3. Scope:

List the topics/issues to be explored and for which you will be developing interview questions; whether members of your group have personal connections to the topic/issue; and the format your oral history product will take (video, podcast, documentary, etc.).

What issues are going to be explored?

Are there personal connections to the topic?

What format will your final project take?



#### 4. Planning the Interview:

Identify who you plan to interview and why. Using the results of the pre-interview research, develop interview questions appropriate to your interviewee's background and knowledge. If you are making a video recording of the interview, plan the shots to ensure you get the visual effects you are looking for. Determine the equipment or other resources you will need, including editing software. Make a list of potential interviewees. Remember, your interview questions should prompt the interviewee to share their reminiscences of experiences, perceptions, and feelings from the time of the event being studied.

Who do you plan to interview?

Why will you interview this person/these people?

What questions do you plan to ask?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Shots you plan to take (if doing a video):

Are there any artifacts that the interviewee has that could be shown or featured in a video?

What equipment or resources will you need (e.g., video camera, editing software, etc.)?