**Developing Good Interview Questions**

**The Process**

As a group, you will develop a script of questions to ask your veterans. We’ll do this in six steps:

1. Individual Question Brainstorming
   1. Background Info and Early Days of Service
   2. Wartime Service
   3. War’s End, Homecoming, and Reflections on Service
2. Question Critique
3. Combining Questions
4. Final Question Critique by Ally
5. Loading the Questions into the Storycorps App.
6. Doing a practice interview

**Pro Tips**

* The questions should move from more basic to more challenging. It’s easiest to do this chronologically (in the order the events happened).
* Ask open-ended questions, which can’t be answered with yes or no, or a single word.
* Ask questions that help veterans recall their experiences, showing rather than telling us about their experiences.
* Ask one question at a time. If you have two related questions, plan to ask one as a follow up.

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**From the StoryCorps Question Bank**

* When were you in the military?
* Which branch did you serve in?
* What motivated you to join the military?
* Tell me about basic training. Were you prepared for military life? What were you unprepared for?
* Describe your daily life while you were in the service.
* What was the most difficult part of your service?
* Tell me about your experiences in combat. How did they change you?
* Describe times that you were afraid. How did you overcome your fear?
* How do you feel about the people you served alongside? What memories do you have of them?
* Describe your transition from military to civilian life. How were you received at home?
* What lessons did your service teach you that you still carry with you?
* Looking back, how do you feel about the war you fought in?