

1950s questionnaire

Find someone who grew up in the 1950s and find out what their life was like. Here are some questions that you can ask them.

1. What is your name? 

2. What year were you born? 

3. Who are you in relation to the interviewer? 

4. What do you remember about the 1950s?



5. Who was your favourite musical performer at the time?



6. What was the name of your favourite song back then?



7. Where did you buy your groceries? How often did you or your parents go shopping for food?



8. If you were a child in the 1950s, what games did you play?



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9. What events do you remember as being important or having a special meaning to you?



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10. Can you describe the clothes that you wore?



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Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

Resources

Copies of the worksheet. Access to someone who grew up in the 1950s.

Using the worksheet

You may wish to use this as an introduction to the 1950s, or as a review. Students could search for someone who grew up in the 1950s, or you may want to bring someone in and have the students ask them questions. Students should be encouraged to think up their own questions based on what they have read or on what they would like to know. They can then write up the answers as a report, make illustrations based on the information given or make a presentation.

If each student interviews a different person, you may like students to put the information together into a class presentation. Students could be split into groups and make graphs or presentation material for different questions.

You may also like the students to answer the questions themselves, as someone growing up in the 'noughties'. They can compare answers and see how their lives are different today.

Younger students

You may want to give younger students some ideas for what questions to ask. You could arrange for a person who grew up in the 1950s to come into class and be interviewed by the students. Each student could prepare a question or questions to ask and write up their answer as a newspaper story.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Understand some of the concerns felt by people growing up in the 1950s.
- Understand what it was like to grow up in the 1950s.
- Conduct an interview.

Older students

Older students may like to think up their own questions and find their own subjects to interview. They may want to write up their interview into a report or newspaper story, or to compare stories in class discussion.

Older students may also like to compare life in the 1950s with their own lives today.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Understand some of the concerns felt by people growing up in the 1950s.
- Understand what it was like to grow up in the 1950s.
- Conduct an interview.
- Compare life in the 1950s with life today.