

## “SPECIAL PERSON INTERVIEW” QUESTIONS

**GOAL: get to know your students, build community, and provide input**

A lot of the questions in the below table come from [this document](#) on Bryce Hedstrom’s website.

More about Bryce’s Special Person Interviews: <http://www.brycehedstrom.com/2015/starting-personal-interviews>

	MEMORIZED LANGUAGE			CREATED LANGUAGE	
	NOVICE LOW <i>Words Phrases</i>	NOVICE MID <i>Words Phrases Simple sentences</i>	NOVICE HIGH <i>Words Phrases Simple sentences Series of sentences</i>	INTERMEDIATE LOW <i>Simple sentences</i>	INTERMEDIATE MID <i>Simple sentences Series of sentences</i>
What is your name?	✓				
How old are you?	✓				
When is your birthday?	✓				
Where do you live?	✓				
Do you play an instrument? Which one?	✓				
How do you get to school? At what time? With whom?		✓			
Do you have/want a <car, pet, job,...>? What kind?	✓	✓			
Have you ever been in a car accident? Broken a bone? Had an injury? Tell us about it.					✓
What classes do you have?		✓			
What is your most prized possession and why?			✓	✓	✓
What are three words that best describe you?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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Describe an embarrassing moment you've had.					✓
Would you like to go to uni? What field?		✓	✓		
How is your family? <b>[This question can be triggering]</b>		✓	✓	✓	✓
What is your favorite <color, animal/pet, sport, movie, <b>book</b> , food, <b>restaurant</b> ,...>? <i>Each topic can be further explored as illustrated below</i>	✓				
How often do you go to your favorite <b>restaurant</b> ? What do you eat there? Why do you like it? Whom do you go with?		✓	✓		
How has a <b>book</b> you have read affected you?					✓
What is your favorite <thing to do at school, thing to do at home, thing to do on the weekend, on vacation,...>? With Whom? Where? How often?		✓	✓	✓	
What are you <b>afraid</b> of and why?		✓	✓	✓	
Tell us about a time you were very <b>afraid</b> .					✓
What is a <b>fear</b> you have overcome? How?					✓
What do you want to be when you grow up and why?		✓	✓	✓	
What do you like the most in life and why?		✓	✓	✓	✓
What do you hate the most in life and why?		✓	✓	✓	✓

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What is your main quality? Your main default? Give an example of each.			✓	✓	✓
Where would you like to travel to and why?			✓	✓	
Where would you like to live and why?			✓	✓	
What would you do if you won the lottery?			✓	✓	
If you were a <movie star, politician, famous dead person,...>, would would you be and why?			✓	✓	✓
Who is your favorite person in the world and why?			✓	✓	✓
Who do you admire and why? Describe his/her qualities.			✓	✓	✓
What makes you smile and why?				✓	✓
What is your biggest accomplishment and why?				✓	✓
What kinds of problems do you want to solve?				✓	✓
How do you want to help other people?				✓	✓
What do you want to get good at and why?				✓	✓
What dreams did you used to have when you were younger?				✓	✓
What was your favorite/most cherished toy when you were younger? Where did you get it? Why was it so special?				✓	✓

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If you knew you were going to die in one year, what would you do?					✓
What do you want your obituary to say?					✓
What are people going to say about you when you are gone?					✓
What do you want to be respected for?				✓	✓
What are you missing in your life? How can we help you with that?					✓
What is one thing that really bothers you that you can work at fixing?				✓	✓
What is one of the nicest things anyone has ever done for you?					✓
Tell us about a time that you discovered you were stronger than you thought you were.					✓

## INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION CAN-DO STATEMENTS (for the full ACTFL guidelines, click [here](#)):

**Important Note:** while these can-do statements are Interpersonal, the [Special Person Interview process](#) is about providing interesting input to students **on topics that matters to them**, not "practicing answering questions" or just eliciting answers from students.

### Novice Low

- I can provide information by answering a few simple questions on very familiar topics, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.
- I can express basic preferences or feelings, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.

### Novice Mid-High

- (NM) I can provide information by answering a few simple questions on very familiar and everyday topics, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.
- (NH) I can provide information by asking and answering practiced and some original questions on familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time.

### Intermediate Low-Mid

- (IL) I can provide information in conversations on familiar topics by creating simple sentences.
- (IM) I can exchange information in conversations on familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences.