**Interview Sheet for American Identity Project**

**Tips for Conducting Interview**

➢ Be Curious - This is your life and your history; ask questions with an open mind and seek to learn as much as you can.

➢ Ask for Evidence - If at all possible, ask to see pictures and artifacts from your family’s earlier days in the United States.

➢ Be Understanding - It’s okay if your interviewee doesn’t know the answer to every question; the goal is to build the best understanding of your family’s past!

➢ Seek Multiple Sources - Ask your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, etc. to gain the best understanding possible!  
➢ Give yourself time! Be sure to allow a minimum of 30 minutes for each interview.

**Questions to ask during Interview**

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| **Question** | **Response** | **Thoughts/ Follow up ?s** |
| 1. What are the origins of your family? What country are your ancestors from? |  |  |
| 1. When (the more specific the date, the better!) and how did your family come to the United States? |  |  |
| 1. What push or pull factors influenced your family to come to the United States? Which had a greater influence – push or pull? What things or people made it difficult for your family member to migrate? |  |  |
| 1. What stories do they have from their immigration experience? Was it a hard or easy trip? |  |  |
| 1. Did the United States live up to your family’s expectations? Do they believe their life has improved since they have been here? |  |  |
| 1. What does it mean to be American to you and your family? Are you proud to live in the US? |  |  |