

Writing an Interview

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Structure

- Brief introduction (see next slide). It makes it easier to abbreviate the names later on if you have given them in full in the introduction.
- The interviewer's questions should be quite short and the interviewer's answers much longer.
- Show that the interview has come to an end, maybe by saying, 'And finally...'



Sample Introduction

- In this month's episode of 'Before They Were Famous', Colm Dennehy talks to recent Nobel Prize winner Rory Kennedy about his childhood and early influences.
- CD: Good morning, Rory, and thank you for taking the time to come into the studio to talk to us.
- RK: My pleasure, Rory. I'm a big fan of the show so it's nice to be on the other side of the microphone for a change!

Tip

- Try to link the questions in some way if you can. Show that the interviewer has done some research and is listening and responding to the answers. Here are some sample openings of questions.
- 'That's very interesting. Did it affect your decision to...
- 'Was that the main reason you decided to become a scientist?'
- 'You said earlier...'
- 'You mentioned your father's influence...'
- 'You have been quoted as saying...'
- 'You are on record as an opponent of...' Etc.

Anecdotes

- An anecdote (short amusing or interesting story about an incident or person) can help to bring the piece to life and make it seem more natural and believable. The interviewee might tell one in response to a question, to illustrate his or her point.

