

Practice Interview Preparation

Names _____

Our classroom guest today will be pretending to be her grandmother. Students will work in small groups to prepare a variety of questions. After a brief demonstration, students from each group will practice their interviewing skills by asking questions and trying to elicit stories from our guest. The class will offer feedback on technique.

Assignment: Your group must prepare four questions in each of the categories below. You will be asking these questions to Selma Sund, an immigrant from the Swedish area of Finland. These questions will be used to develop story ideas for 2 stories. One story will need to be about her journey from Finland and another story will need to be about her experiences in the U.S. Keep this in mind when you develop the questions.

Background information about Selma Sund: Selma was born in Finland in the late 1800's. She came to the United States with her sisters, by boat. She left behind the rest of her family and had no way of communicating with them because her family in Finland was not able to read or write. Selma arrived in the U.S. around 1898 at the age of 17. She came through Ellis Island. When she arrived, she spoke only Swedish.

Questions:

1. Factual

a.

b.

c.

d.

2. Open-ended

a.

b.

c.

d.

3. Daring

a.

b.

c.

d.

4. Reflective

a.

b.

c.

d.