

Elder Interview Question Bank: Life experience, identity, perspective on what it means to be American

General	Question	Author's Name
	Can you tell me about your life growing up and the experiences that shaped who you are today?	Mrs. Winter
	How is being American different from your homeland?	
	Tell me a little about yourself.	
	When you think of "America", what are the first three things that come to mind?	
	How would you describe your American identity, and what do you think has shaped it?	
	Where are you from?	
	Do you feel like Americans always own up to American standards? How is this different in other countries, if you've ever been to one?	
	How did you feel when you came to America? Did you feel that you've already become American or would you consider yourself still from your homeland?	
	What do you believe being American means?	
	What are some of your hobbies and how do you think they have changed your American identity?	
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	Growing up in America, did you face any challenges? If you did, did you solve them?	
	Was it hard learning English since it wasn't your first language?	
	What does it mean to "belong" in your perspective?	
	What do you remember about your childhood?	
	If you had to describe the American people in a single sentence, what would you say and why?	
	Has your childhood or experiences shaped you in any way other than physical growth?	
	What do you think it means to be American?	
	Why did you choose to move to the United States?	
	Do you think that America meets the expectations that some people that have never been here have about America and American culture are accurate in any way?	
Specific	Where have you traveled in the US/world? Can you share specific instances of how your travels made you reflective about what it means to be American?	Mrs. Winter
	How many times have you ever felt out of place and why?	

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