

Stories of Direction: Interview Guide and Feedback Form

Probing Essential Questions:

- Where should I go?
- How do I get there safely?
- Why do groups of people get displaced from their countries of origin?
- How do they navigate the unknowns they encounter, both culturally and geographically?
- How can storytelling bridge the cultural gap between a displaced person's old and new worlds?

Sample Interview Questions:

1. Where did you move here from?
2. When did you move here and how long have you been here?
3. How do you identify yourself, in a geographical sense?
4. Why do people leave?
5. What's the hardest part of leaving?
6. What is the most difficult thing to get used to in a new place?
7. What do you miss the most?
8. What assumptions did you have about the "new land"?
9. How did you choose where to go?
10. Tell me about the political system that you left?
11. Tell me about the education system that you left?
12. Is it important to you to maintain a (Venezuelan) identity, and how do you do it?
13. Do you see yourself as Americanized? Can you elaborate?
14. How has living here affected your view of America and/or Americans?
15. How do you navigate Americans who do not think immigrants/outsideers belong in America?

Exemplar texts about displaced people:

- The Life of Pi*
- The Perfect Storm*
- The Odyssey*, Homer

1. Write the names of three people (travelers) you could interview?

2. Write 10-15 interview questions you will use.

3. What details stood out to you from the interview?

4. What is your overall impression of your traveler?

5. What story do you want to tell about your traveler?

6. What sensory details emerged in the interview?
 - I could see...

 - I could smell...

 - I could taste...

 - I could feel...

 - I could hear...

