Interview Podcast Packet





This packet will guide you through every step of creating an interview podcast. In this format, you’ll interview an expert—someone who knows a lot about a topic. You’ll prepare by researching your guest and writing questions ahead of time. You’ll also plan and record an introduction and conclusion for your episode.

[**What is an interview podcast? 3**](#_heading=h.58yh64tn9lk3)

[**Part 1: Interview Podcast Instructions 4**](#_heading=h.e8bfshpisdvg)

[**Part 2: Interview Prep Page 6**](#_heading=h.msm8ywaas5f1)

[**Part 3: Interview Question Prep 8**](#_heading=h.rowpwuxpzw4s)

[**Part 4: Your Final Interview Questions 9**](#_heading=h.4n9f6gtcjuce)

[**Part 5: Intro Script Mad Libs 12**](#_heading=h.yzrj8bu6ob4w)

[**Part 6: Reflection Questions 14**](#_heading=h.ui22e9510qq)

# What is an interview podcast?

An Interview Podcast is like a conversation show between **two people**. One person is the **interviewer**, and the other is the **guest**.

The interviewer’s job is to **ask great questions**. The guest is usually someone who knows a lot about a certain topic—like a scientist, an artist, or an explorer! The goal is to learn new things by talking with someone who’s an expert.

Interview podcasts are a fun way to discover cool facts, hear amazing stories, and find out what it’s like to do different kinds of jobs. If you’re curious and love asking questions, this might be the podcast style for you!

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# Part 1: Interview Podcast Instructions

**Step 1: Choose Your Topic and Guest.** You should always begin by thinking about a topic you want to learn about–that helps you find out *who* you want to talk to.

* Pick a topic you’re curious about. It can be something your teacher assigns you, or something you’re curious to learn more about.
* Choose someone who knows a lot about that topic (or assign someone to become the expert).

**Step 2: Research and Prepare Questions.** Once you’ve found your guest, you should do some *serious* research. Great interviews don’t just happent–they’re the result of lots of preparation! Make sure you know enough about your guest that you can ask them good questions and have a great interview. If you’re interviewing a scientist, use Tumble’s “[How to Interview a Scientist](https://drive.google.com/file/d/17syeyEErEhomkzyuBAA_5LavH0zLzYq5/view?usp=drive_link)” for some great tips!

* Learn about your topic and your guest.
* Use the Interview Prep Page (Part 2) and Question Starters (Part 3).
* Write 5 strong questions and one follow-up for each.

**Step 3: Schedule and Record Your Interview.** Once you’ve found your guest, you need to find a time you can meet and record your interview with them.

* Decide when you’ll record your interview.
* Test the microphones and sound before you start.
* Start the interview with: "Can you please introduce yourself?"
* Listen carefully and be ready to ask follow-up questions.

**Step 4: Write and Record the Introduction and Conclusion.** Every good interview show needs an introduction and conclusion. You should share with your audience *who* your guest is, why you wanted to talk to them, and what you learned from the interview. You can use the Script Starter in Part 4 to help guide you!

* Plan what you’ll say before and after the interview.
* Include the name of your podcast, what it’s about, and why your topic is important or interesting.

**Step 5: Edit and Share.** Once you’ve finished your interview and recorded your intro, it’s time to stitch them together using.

* Add music or transitions if you want.
* Save the final version and send it to your teacher.

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# Part 2: Interview Prep Page

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who is your guest?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is your guest an expert in? Why did you choose them?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Research your guest. Write up to 5 facts you should know before the interview.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What do you hope to learn from the interview?

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# Part 3: Interview Question Prep

Use this sheet to prepare your questions before the interview occurs. When you have your interview, make sure that your first question is:

1. **Can you please introduce yourself? Use a complete sentence. (For example, “My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I’m \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (their occupation, age, or area of expertise).**

When you’re asking interview questions, remember that you want to get your guest talking! Try asking questions that really get at what they know, or why they think the way they do. The best interviewers do their research, and ask lots of open-ended questions that can make guests think hard!

Here are some questions you might try to start:

* How would you explain what you do to a little kid?
* What’s the most interesting thing you learned recently?
* Why do you do what you do?
* What’s something that changed the way you think about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* Can you tell me more about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (topic from your research about them)?
* How did you get interested in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* What’s challenging about what you do?
* Why did you want to learn about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* What has doing what you do taught you about the world?
* When did you decide to do \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* Your recent work is about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Can you explain what that’s about?
* What’s something you’ve learned that surprised you?

**Follow up Questions.** Great interviewers also ask lots of follow up questions. A follow up question is when you listen carefully to what your guest said, and ask good questions that get them to say more. Here are some good follow-up questions:

* Can you tell me more about that?
* How did that make you feel?
* What’s the most interesting thing about that?
* Am I understanding that you’re saying \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (summarize something they just said)?
* What did that make you think?
* Did that experience surprise you?
* What was it that made that so memorable?

# Part 4: Your Final Interview Questions

In the space below, write at least five possible interview questions for your guest. Include at least one possible follow-up question for each one.

Question 1:

Possible Follow Up:

Question 2:

Possible Follow Up:

Question 3:

Possible Follow Up:

Question 4:

Possible Follow Up:

Question 5:

Possible Follow Up:

Question 6:

Possible Follow Up:

Question 7:

Possible Follow Up:

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**Finally, you’ll need to thank your guest.** Use this as your final question:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Guest Name), thank you so much for joining me today. It’s been a pleasure having you!

# Part 5: Intro Script Mad Libs

Every good interview podcast needs an intro and outro! Use these blanks to write your introduction, or write your own however you’d prefer on the next page.

Show Name:

What is your show about?

Your Guest’s Name:

Write a short description of who your guest is:

Why did you want to talk to your guest?

Name one cool thing you learned from your interview:

Host:

Hello, and welcome to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Show Name), the show about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (What your show is about).

Today, my guest is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(your guest’s name). They are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (very short description of your guest).

I wanted to talk to them because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (reason why you wanted to talk them).

I learned a lot from this interview, including \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(one thing you learned from the interview). I thought it was a really interesting conversation, and I hope you will too!

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# Part 6: Reflection Questions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Did the interview go the way you expected? Why or why not?

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2. What did you learn from this experience?

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3. What went well in your interview? What could be better next time?

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4. If you could interview someone else, who would it be and why?

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5. What do you want listeners to take away from your episode?

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