# Students with Interrupted/Inconsistent Formal Education (SIFE)

## Oral Interview Questionnaire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
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<td>Student’s Date of Birth</td>
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<td>Interviewer’s Name</td>
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How to Read and Record Interview Questions

Interviewer instructions:
These are in brackets and italics, as in Item 7: [If different]

Questions to ask student:
These are numbered and should be read aloud to the student.

Recording student answers:
Sometimes a student's answer must be recorded on a given line or space provided, as in 2) - 6) on this page. Please PRINT CLEARLY and DO NOT abbreviate. Sometimes the interviewer must circle an answer that is provided, as in 1) FEMALE or MALE. These answers SHOULD NOT be read aloud to the student. See the following section for more information about recording responses.

Personal and Language Information

1. Gender: □ Male □ Female

2. a. What is your first name?
   b. What is your last name?

3. a. How old are you?
   b. What is your date of birth? 35T

4. In what country were you born?

5. [If different] In what country were you raised?

6. In what city, town, or village were you raised?

7. What was the first language that you learned in your home as a child?

8. a. What other languages, if any, have you learned?
   b. Which language are you most comfortable using?

9. What language(s) did you learn at school?
Warm-up Questions

1. What do you do when you are not in school?

2. What do you like about living in a new country/or about where you live now?
**Benchmark 1: Family and Home Background**

**Recording student answers:**
Ask each question without giving prompts for the answers. Then check the answer(s) given by the student, filling in "OTHER" if the participant’s answer does not appear under a given question. If the student doesn’t respond to a given question, you may use the prompts to help the student provide an answer.

I’d like to ask you some questions about your family and your home.

1. Who do you live with? [check all that apply]

- [ ] Mother
- [ ] Father
- [ ] Sibling(s)
- [ ] Aunt(s)
- [ ] Uncle(s)
- [ ] Cousin(s)
- [ ] Grandparent(s)
- [ ] Other ______________________________

2. a. Do any of the people you live with now speak English? [check one]

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] I don’t know

b. Do they speak your language? [check one]

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] I don’t know

3. a. Of all the people that you live with now, who has the highest level of education?

b. What is his or her highest level of education? [check one]

- [ ] Primary School
- [ ] Secondary School
- [ ] College or University
- [ ] Graduate School
- [ ] I Don’t Know

4. In what languages do you speak to your parents/guardians?

5. a. Did you work in your home country? [check one]

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

b. What type of work did you do?

6. a. Do you work now? [check one]

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

b. [if yes] What type of work do you do?

7. Do you have anyone at home who can help with homework? [check one]

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
Benchmark 2: Education History

Recording student answers:
Start with "When you were..." and give the first age range below. Then, continue asking all the questions in that row. Then, start again with "When you were..." and give the following age range, and ask all the questions in the row again. Clearly write the student's response in the box provided without using abbreviations. Continue in this way until you reach the current age of the student.

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about your experiences going to school up until this year.
I'll be repeating some of the questions for each year that you've been in school.

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<tr>
<th>Grade level</th>
<th>When you were . . .</th>
<th>In what country were you living?</th>
<th>Did you go to school for most of that school year?</th>
<th>How much time did you spend in school?</th>
<th>Was your school in a city or town?</th>
<th>In what language(s) were the lessons given?</th>
<th>Did you study outside of school that year?</th>
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At what age did you begin kindergarten in your country?  

[If kindergarten not attended] At what age did you begin first grade?  

Additional Information:

Now I am going to ask you questions about your school in your home country.

1. Tell me about your experiences at school. What was a typical school day in your country?

2. What do you feel that you do very well in school?

3. What was your favorite school subject?
Benchmark 3: Language and Literacy Practices

Recording student answers:
Ask each question without giving prompts for the answers. Then circle the answer(s) given by the student, filling in "OTHER" if the participant’s answer does not appear under a given question. If the student doesn’t respond to a given question, you may use the prompts to help the student provide an answer.

Next I am going to ask you some questions about the language(s) you use now.

1. a. Do you like to read in your spare time? [check one] □ Yes □ No
   b. [If yes] What do you read? [check all that apply]
      □ Magazines □ Books □ Comics
      □ Newspapers □ Other
   c. [If yes] What do you like to read about? [check all that apply]
      □ Sports □ Fashion □ Music
      □ Entertainment □ News □ Science Fiction
      □ Mystery □ Other
   d. [If yes] In which language(s) do you read? [check all that apply]
      □ Primary Language □ English □ Other

2. a. Do you like to write in your spare time? [check one] □ Yes □ No
   b. [If yes] What do you like to write? [check all that apply]
      □ Poetry □ Emails □ Letters
      □ Music Lyrics □ Stories □ Notes to family
      □ Reports □ Journal □ Notes to friends
   c. [If yes] In which language(s) do you write? [check all that apply]
      □ Primary Language □ English □ Other
Now I am going to ask you about some other activities outside of school.

3. When you talk to your friends in person or on the phone, which language(s) do you use? [check all that apply]
   - Primary Language
   - English
   - Other

4. a. Do you use: [check all that apply]
   - The Internet
   - Computers
   - Video-games
   - Telephone
   - Other
   - None of these

   b. [If yes] In which language(s)? [check all that apply]
   - Primary Language
   - English
   - Other

5. a. Do you watch TV? [check one]
   - Yes
   - No

   b. [If yes] In which language(s)? [check all that apply]
   - Primary Language
   - English
   - Other

6. Do you use a cell or smart phone? [check one]
   - Yes
   - No

7. a. Do you use your smart/cell phone to search the internet?
   - Yes
   - No

   b. [If yes] In which language(s)? [check all that apply]
   - Primary Language
   - English
   - Other
Benchmark 4: Other Questions

What career do you want to have in the future? What are your plans when you finish school?

Benchmark 5: Performance Questions

(See instructions in the SIFE Oral Questionnaire Guidance)

1. Have the student look at a world globe or a map and find their home country and the capital.
   Comments:

2. Have the student read an analog clock
   Comments:
Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBE-WL)