

Childhood & Adolescence

Childhood

- What was the best thing about your childhood?
- What do you miss most about being a child?
- Do you think that children these days have a better or worse childhood than your generation? Why?
- What do you think is most important for a happy childhood?
- What about your childhood do you wish you could change?
- Where did you grow up? How did that affect your childhood?
- What were some of your favorite activities when you were a child?
- Who, besides your parents, had the biggest impact on your childhood?
- What do you want to provide your children that you didn't have when you were growing up?
- Who were you really jealous of when you were a child? Why were you jealous?
- What was your experience at school like? (elementary, junior high, or highschool) Did you have a happy childhood?
- What did you like to do when you were a child?
- What was your favorite subject? Why?
- What was your favorite game?
- Do you remember anything about your personality when a child?
- Were you good at making friends?
 - How did you make friends?
 - Did you have a lot of friends?
 - What did you enjoy doing with your friends?
- What were some embarrassing situations when you were a child?
- Did you enjoy going to school? Were you a good student? Did you enjoy doing your homework?
- What did you like about school?
- What didn't you like about school?
- How did you meet this friend?
- What did you do together?
- Do you still do things with this childhood friend?
- What other things can you tell us about your best friend?
- Were your parents super protective?
- At what age could you go places by yourself?
- Did your parents always tell you what to do?
- How long did you play outside a day?
- Could you play outside all year long?
- Did you play on the streets?
- Was it dangerous to play in the streets?
- Did you ever have an accident while playing in the streets? What happened?
- When you were a child, what did you want to grow up to be? Did you want to be a mother or father? A firefighter? A doctor? A scientist?
- Can you remember specific things from your childhood clearly?
- How old were you at the time of your first memories?
- What kind of food did you like?
- Did you used to eat anything or were you a picky eater?
- What foods did you like eating? What foods didn't you like to eat? Did you have any foods you hated?
- What was your favorite toy when you were a child? Do you still have it?
- What was your worst punishment as a child?
- Where did you grow up? Did you move frequently? If so, why?
- Who took care of you when you were little? A parent? A grandparent? A nanny? A daycare center?
- How are you similar to your parents? How are you different?
- Describe the first memory you have of going to school.
- Do you think children today eat too much fast food and don't play enough sports?
- What childhood diseases did you have?
- Did you have any nickname? Tell us about it.
- Were you afraid of anything? What?
- What were your favorite cartoons and TV shows?

Adolescence

- As a teenager, what do you think you can contribute to society?
- What do teenagers care for (what do they consider important)?
- At what age should teenagers leave home?
- What type of punishment did your parents use when you were a teenager?
- Do you think teenagers today have it "too easy"?
- Did you have a good relationship with your parents? Why or why not?
- What do you think are some important things parents can do for teenagers?
- Do you think teenagers today show respect for adults? Teachers? Parents? Brothers and sisters?
- What do you think about teenagers who dye their hair blue, green, or another crazy color?
- Do you think that wearing uniforms to school is a good idea?
- At what age did you leave home?
- What would you do if your teenage son or daughter got a tattoo?
- What would you do if your teenage son or daughter shaved his or her head?
- How do you feel about swearing?
 - Does it matter if teenagers sometimes use bad language?
- What do you think parents can do to help teenagers avoid depression?
- Do you think it's a good idea to give teenagers a lot of freedom? (For example, come home when you like)
- What can you do to keep your teenager away from drugs and alcohol?
- Why do you think some teenagers do good things and others (in the same family often) do bad things?
- How old were you when you had your first serious relationship?
- What can society do to help teenagers who have problems at home?
- Are there more pregnant teenage girls in this country than in your country? Why?
- What is the best advice you could give to a teenager growing up in this culture?
- Do you think that advertising plays an important role in how teenagers think?
- Should teenagers work? Why or why not?
- If you could be a teenager again, would you do anything differently?
- Were you teenage years enjoyable?
- Do you think it is better to raise teenagers in the city, a small town, or the country?
- What is it like to be a teenager in your society?
- Would you rather be a child, teenager or an adult? Why?
 - What are the advantages of being a child? ...a teenager? ...an adult?
- What are the disadvantages of being a child? ...a teenager? ...an adult?
- If you could meet any teenager in the world, who would it be?
- At what age should teenagers be allowed to leave school?
- At what age should teenagers be allowed to smoke? ...drink? ...drive? ...get married? ...vote?
- Do you know any good role models for teenagers?
- Do you know any teenagers who don't act like other teens?
 - Why do you think they act differently?
- What do you/will you remember about being a teenager?
- Can teens change the world? If yes, how? If not, why not?
- What's the difference between teenage girls and teenage boys? What causes those differences?
- Would you rather be stuck in a bus with children, teens, young adults, adults or elderly adults? Why?
- When did you start to be a teen?
 - How did you know that you were a teenager?
 - Do you still feel like a teen sometimes?
- What is the difference between the teenagers of 19th century and the teenagers of the 21st century?
- As a teenager, how do you think fashion changed or affected your life?
- Among teenage fashion that is prevalent in the world today, which do you think is the the best? The most hideous? The strangest?
- How much freedom should parents give to their teenagers?
 - Should boys and girls be given the same amount of freedom? Why or Why not?
- If you were a parent and your teenage child did something wrong, how would you discipline him/her?
- What do you think are some of the greatest problems facing teenagers today?
 - How are different from the ones you faced as a teenager?
- How do you think can we eradicate or at least lessen juvenile delinquency?
- How does media affect the thinking patterns of the teenagers of today?
- If you could do something differently, which mistake in the past would you not make and why?