

# Family History Club

## Judges Interview

### How to Prepare:

1. Read your Process paper! The 5 questions used in the PP often come up in the interview.
2. Brainstorm and write down interesting and entertaining information on 7 cards:

Favorite research find (document, interview, library, museum)	One thing that caused you to change your mind (learned something new or realized what you thought was one way was really not!)	Impact on history and how it relates to you and your family or you and your generation
Best primary source	Best secondary source	Some analysis you figured out that makes us say "hmmm that's interesting"
Most interesting thing you could not fit in your project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Put each of the 12 items on an index card</li><li>-Have someone ask you the typical judges questions.</li><li>-Practice answering with one of the ten items.</li></ul> <p><i>Just like a politician – guide the conversation so you talk about what you want to talk about.</i></p>	

### Examples of Questions:

1. How did you choose your topic?
2. How did you do your research?
3. How did you put your project together?
4. How does it relate to the theme?
5. What is your best primary source?
6. What is your best secondary source?
7. Why did you choose your title?
8. How will you improve your project if you move on? (research and product)
9. Where did you get your props? Pictures? Sound clips? Etc.
10. How did you get THAT interview?
11. What opposition did he/she have?

## Tips and Tricks for a Great Judges Interview:

1. SMILE!!!!
2. Judges want to see that you are excited about your project.
3. Judges want to see that you are knowledgeable about your topic.
4. The higher you go in the competition, the more familiar you should be with your bibliography.
5. Brag about your research!
6. Some judges will work as history teachers, in libraries, in museums, even in the Library of Congress (Nationals). Know your stuff. Don't be afraid to share your analysis.
7. Expect 3 questions, however the longer you talk about the topic you know best, the less time they have for more questions.
8. (Performance and Doc) step forward for interview
9. Do not memorize any answers. They need to be genuine.
10. Know why your angle is different from other projects of a similar topic.
11. Try to tie each answer to topic/theme in history
12. Know the difference between a primary and a secondary source
13. Words to use in your answers:
  - a. Historical perspective
  - b. Impact
  - c. Historical significance
  - d. How it changed history
  - e. Different perspectives/opposing views
  - f. THEME WORDS!!
14. Know what changed because of your topic
15. Think about how it changed things in certain ways: political, economic, practice, social etc)
16. Be funny (if it's genuine)
17. Include ironic points
18. Know what was going on in the country/world at the time (not just related to the topic)
19. Be prepared to talk about your interviews
20. Tell stories.
21. Don't back down if they challenge you on your analysis.