

2022 ATTS STANDARD ORAL HISTORY QUESTIONS

(a voice recorder should be turned on and checked for operation prior to start)

Interviewer Statement

Today's date is (month, day, year), and the time is (hour and minute, AM or PM)

My name and surname are:

My home address or other locator is:

I am ____ years of age, and I am voluntarily participating in creating a project to share with others on the Michigan State University Global Youth Advancement Network website.

I am presently accompanied by the subject of this interview, (state the name of the person), and we are located at (state the address if there is one, or geolocation details if in the bush!)

The Interviewee

Thank you for your help in supporting my participation in this project. Do you agree to permit me to record your responses to my further questions? (If the interviewee declines, then the interview is over)

Please state your name and surname, and spell your name and surname

Please state your home street address or other locator, and spell your city, area, province, village, etc.

Please state your birthday, and place of birth, and spell your place of birth

South Africa

What do you feel that people living outside South Africa should know about the country?

(The interviewer will listen to answers and follow-up with new questions that arise)

Mandela's Metaphor

In 1994 Nelson Mandela began his Presidency by saying to his "compatriots," to all South Africans, that we are each intimately attached to the soil of the country like the roots of Jacaranda trees of Pretoria and the Mimosa trees of the bushveld. At that time, he was using symbolism to convey something about South Africa, perhaps related to its past, or its present, or its future. He never explained it further.

What do you think he meant for others to understand from that metaphor?

(The interviewer will listen to answers and follow-up with new questions that arise)

My Metaphor

I have my own soil-related metaphor to share with you that symbolizes an aspect of South Africa that I feel is important. I feel that it connects with an experience in your life, and others like you have had similar experiences.

Here it is: (interviewer shares their metaphor).

With your own understanding of Mandela's symbolism, and that of my own symbolism, what is the story from your life that you would like to share with others?

(The interviewer will listen to answers and follow-up with new questions that arise)

What do you want your fellow South Africans to be able to understand better about other people who are like you, and about South Africa's past, present, or future, from your story?

(The interviewer will listen to answers and follow-up with new questions that arise)