

Name _____

Date _____

Character Sketch

Assignment:

Write a **5-8 page typed paper** which describes a person you know. Because it is impossible to write a detailed report about a person's entire life in only 5-8 pages, the paper will describe only part of the person's life. The person you choose to write about should be your parents' ages or older (to increase the interest level), and the person must agree to be interviewed by you.

Suggestion:

Generally, the students who most enjoy this assignment are students who select a person who is much older, particularly a grandparent. Because there is a large discrepancy in the ages of the interviewer and interviewee, the writer often learns fascinating information that he would never read about in a history book. You must have your parents' permission to interview someone.

Steps for completing the paper:

1. Select a person to interview and obtain that person's permission. (Most people will be flattered by your proposal to interview them.) Make an appointment to interview the person. Tell the person why you need to interview him or her and explain that you will write a report afterward. Also explain that during the interview you would love to see pictures or souvenirs he or she may be willing to show as you interview them.
2. Create a list of questions to ask the person. (Pay attention to the person's age. Don't ask any questions that might be offensive or that show that you are unprepared for the interview. For example, if you interview someone who was born in 1925, he might be offended if you ask him questions about World War I.!)

Sample Only – The complete handout is 4 pages.