

## **FILMMAKING A**

### **INTERVIEW GUIDELINES**

#### **YOU SHOULD KNOW:**

- What is the subject's background and relationship to the topic of the interview?
- What information does your documentary need?
- What information do you want from this person?
- Is the subject supposed to provide information on every aspect of your topic?

#### **QUESTIONS**

1. Prepare open-ended questions that cannot be answered with a yes or no answer. Use words like "how" and "why" in your questions.
2. Try your questions on a friend to see how they work and what kind of responses you get.
3. Warm up your subject with casual conversation while the shoot is being prepared or before you begin questioning.
4. Before beginning the interview, remind the subject to include your question in his response.
5. Never interrupt the person you are interviewing.
6. Start your interview with a question the subject will enjoy.
7. If your question is unclear to the subject, rephrase it and try again.
8. Ask simple, not compound, questions.

#### **PICKING THE RIGHT PERSON TO INTERVIEW**

1. Find someone who is knowledgeable about your topic.
2. Find someone who can present his ideas clearly.
3. Interview someone who has the strongest relationship to your topic.