

Let's Interview

An activity of "Messages from the Minister"

The article "**Messages from the Minister**" (pages 9-11, *What's Up* October 2019) features an interview with our Education Minister, Ong Ye Kung. In it, he tells us that success can mean different things to different people. What do you think it means to the people around you? Conduct an interview of your own to find out.

1. With a partner, decide on your interviewee. It can be a teacher, relative or friend.
2. Discuss the questions you will ask the interviewee. Remember, the focus of your interview is to find out what success means to the interviewee. Write them down below.
3. Ask your interviewee if he/she is willing to be interviewed and arrange a time and place to meet.
4. Carry out the interview. During the interview, record the conversation and take down notes so that you do not forget what has been said. Make sure the interviewee is comfortable with being recorded.
5. Write an article about what you have learnt. You may use a question-and-answer style as in "Messages from the Minister" article, or write a profile about your interviewee.

Our interviewee is _____

Our questions:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Some tips to keep in mind:

- Always be polite to your interviewee.
- Keep your questions short and to the point.
- Ask questions that will elicit more than "yes" or "no" answers.
- Always take time to ask for an explanation about things you don't understand — ask for definitions, examples, anecdotes.
- Ask one question at a time.
- Don't be afraid of uncomfortable silences and pauses. Let the interviewee take his/her time to answer your questions.