



## **Sociolinguistic interview questions (English)**

40 Questions (35 minutes)

1. Tell me about a favorite memory from your childhood.
2. How would you describe your ideal vacation?
3. What does the term “Spanglish” mean to you?
4. When and where do you feel most comfortable and why?
5. What’s your favorite time of the year and why?
6. How did you learn English?
7. What’s the last book you read and did you like it?
8. What is the ideal way to start your day and why?
9. Do you think of the United States as a Spanish-speaking country? Why or why not?
10. Tell me about an obstacle that you’ve had to overcome.
11. What’s something unique about you that sets you aside from most people you know?
12. If you were forced to live the rest of your life speaking only English, what consequences would you foresee? What about for only Spanish?
13. Are there any foods you really dislike and if so, why do you dislike those foods?
14. Who or what are you most proud of, and why?
15. If you are going to spend time with someone that knows both English and Spanish, how do you determine how much of each language you’ll use with them?
16. How important or unimportant do you think fashion is in today’s society?
17. Do you play a musical instrument, and if not, which would you want to learn to play if you could?
18. Would you rather have dreams in Spanish or in English? Why?
19. If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?
20. Tell me about the last time you remember being very angry. What upset you?
21. If someone in the United States that only knew English was going to learn another language, which second language do you think would be most useful to learn and why?
22. Tell me about a really good movie or tv-show that you’ve seen lately. What did you like about it?



23. Tell me about the neighborhood where you grew up. What was it like?
24. If Spanish-English bilingual education were made a requirement for all children in California, what do you think some of the positive or negative consequences would be?
25. How do you think California is different from other states in the United States?
26. Do you have any stories about an embarrassing moment for you or someone you know?
27. What kinds of technology do you use and what do you like or dislike about them?
28. If you need to quickly do some basic math, like adding or subtracting numbers, would you prefer to do it in English or in Spanish? Why?
29. What are some qualities you value in either a good friend or a romantic partner?
30. How would you describe living in California to someone that was considering moving here?
31. If you could control the weather, what kind of weather would you set for yourself here?
32. How would you describe your experience with the education system in California?
33. If you could have a superpower, which would it be and why?
34. Do you think there is any specific dialect of English that is either easiest or hardest to understand?
35. If you were elected to a political position of power and could make changes to California, what kinds of problems would you want to try to solve?
36. When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up and why?
37. Tell me something about the home you live in that you either really like or really hate.
38. What's your favorite genre of music and why?
39. Do you have any pet peeves, and if so, what are they and why do you think you have them?
40. Would you say that you're a morning person (or an early-bird)? Why or why not?