1. What is your date of birth?
2. Where were you born? Did you move around a lot when you were young? What cities / countries have you lived in?
3. Where are you in the family composition – oldest? middle? youngest? How many siblings?
4. What was the occupation of your father? Your mother? Did one parent have a significant influence on your outlook/future… if so, please talk about this. Elaborate if you wish.
5. How would you describe your economic family status – lower income? middle income? upper middle income? Upper income? (If you struggled with poverty/food insecurity, please talk about it here.) Do you know your family history? If so, please discuss.
6. Please give details (long or short stories) on highs, lows, and turning points in your upbringing in which your life took another direction. Inflection points??
7. Did you go to college? What college? What was your field of study? Undergraduate degree? Graduate degree? Why did you choose this field of study? Extracurricular activities? Any foreign language? Did you like school? If so, why? If not so, why? What subjects did you excel in? What subjects were more challenging?
8. Would you consider yourself in your youth – Introverted? Extraverted? A leader? A follower? A little of both? Wide or slim circle of friends? Any particular achievements… awards, recognitions etc.
9. Did you marry? If so, when and to who? Any children? Grandchildren? Did you marry more than once?
10. Did you have a vision about what career you would pursue in your youth? Talk about your path to your profession… what missteps, detours as well as “wins.”

Think about these wise words by the renowned archeologist, Gisela Richter:

*A series of failures may culminate in the best possible result.* Your setbacks? Extreme challenges?

1. Do you have a general philosophy or “wise words” that you try to live by?
2. What other jobs /careers have you dabbled in? If there was another career that you might have chosen – what was it? Why?
3. Do you do any volunteerism? If so, please describe. Any political activism?
4. Do you have any thoughts on elderhood? Seniors? Growing Older? What are they?
5. What do you do when you are not working? Vocations? Hobbies? Sports? Leisure time or political activities? Please fully elaborate.
6. What San Francisco neighborhood do you live in (or work in)?