

Know Thyself Life Story Questionnaire

Prepared by Daniel Keeran, MSW, President
College of Mental Health Counselling
www.collegemhc.com

Instructions: Only say as much as you want to. Skip questions that are too uncomfortable but think about why they are.
Simply completing this questionnaire can be a **healing experience** in itself.
To **understand the deeper meaning** of the questions get this important resource
[Effective Counseling Skills](#)

Introduce Yourself

1. What is your first name?
2. What is your age and gender?
3. What is your marital status? Single, married, separated, or divorced? How long? Explain the reasons for separation(s) or divorce(s). What happened?
4. What is your race, ethnic, or cultural background? Caucasian, Chinese, East Indian, Aboriginal, Other?
5. What are your children's genders and ages? If they are adults, give their occupations and marital situation.
6. Do you live alone or with someone? How long?

What Happened?

7. What problems and concerns do you have now?
8. What emotions have you been having and what is each one about? Fear, anger, frustration, guilt, sadness, low self-worth, despair, other feelings?
9. How long have you been feeling this way? (for each feeling or problem)
10. What happened at the time you began feeling this way?
11. When have you felt like this in the past and what happened?
12. Any health problems? E.g. epilepsy, diabetes, etc.
13. Any counseling or hospitalized for emotional reasons? How old were you? Please give the reasons.

The Family You Grew Up In and Your Childhood

14. How many brothers and sisters do you have? Give each person's gender, age, occupation, and marital situation.
15. Which one are you in the line of birth? First, last, second or third, etc. How many years separate you from the others nearest you?
16. Who were you closest to when growing up?
17. Are your parents still living? What was your age at their death?
18. Have you experienced any other deaths of family members or friends? What was your age?
19. Describe your father's (and step-father's) personality and your relationship to him when you were growing up. Were you close, not so close, distant, affectionate? Give an example of something that happened that shows this and how old you were.

20. Talk about how your relationship with your father (or father figure) during childhood may have affected you in both positive and negative ways.
21. How have the negative experiences with your father figure(s), come up again in your relationships with other people up to now?
22. Describe your mother's (and step-mother's) personality and your relationship to her when you were growing up. Were you close, not so close, distant, affectionate? Give an example of something that happened that shows this and how old you were.
23. Talk about how your relationship with your mother (or mother figure) during childhood may have affected you in both positive and negative ways.
24. How have the negative experiences with your mother figure(s), come up again in your relationships with other people up to now?
25. What were your spiritual or religious beliefs before age 10 and how have your beliefs changed since then?
26. What was your role in the family when you were growing up? Think of a word, e.g. peacemaker, black sheep, victim, outsider, assistant parent, invisible, baby, etc.? Give an example of what happened.
27. Describe your parents' relationship. Were they affectionate? How did they deal with conflict? Give an example of what happened.
28. Was anyone in the family or extended family ever hospitalized for emotional reasons or commit suicide? Any mental retardation?
29. How did family members relate to each other when you were growing up? Give an example.
30. How were feelings of anger, sadness, fear, and guilt expressed? Give an example.
31. Describe a time when you were disciplined that was most painful for you. How old were you? What happened?
32. What personality features do you have which your parents also have?
33. Who was there for you when you were hurt as a child?
34. What messages about your worth and the worth of others, was communicated by each parent both verbally and nonverbally?
35. How old were you when you left home, and why did you leave?
36. If you had miraculous power to change your family when you were growing up and your childhood in any three ways, what would you choose?
37. If your family experience had been different in the ways you mentioned above, how do you imagine your life might be different today?
38. Do you know if your mother had any problems with your birth?

Your School Experience and Friends

39. What was the first day of school like?
40. How many moves and school changes occurred during school years? How old were you, what grades did you move and why?
41. Describe your relationships with teachers.
42. Describe your relationships with peers.
43. Do you believe you achieved your best in school? Why? What grade or education level did you complete? What happened?
44. Did you have a group of friends during the first six grades? If not, why?
45. Did you have one or two very close friends as a teenager? If not, why?

46. Did you tend to be a follower or a leader with friends as a teenager?
47. How old were you when you first started go out with someone (or dated)?
48. Do you have a satisfactory network of friends, family, groups? Describe these briefly.
49. How would you describe the types of people you associate with? (What is your role with friends and acquaintances? Helper, victim, other?)

Your Work Experiences

50. How old were you when you first went to work?
51. What types of jobs have you had and how many? Why did you leave each job?
52. What has been your role at work? Helper, invisible, responsible, victim, other? And how have you gotten along with bosses?

Your Social Life and Relationships

53. What was your first date like for you?
54. How old were you with your first sexual experience? And first intercourse?
55. How many sexual partners have you had over time? And what is your sexual preference or orientation? (heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual)
56. Describe your partner's personality and your relationship. Aggressive, passive, abusive, caring, other? And describe previous meaningful relationships, their personalities, and why they ended.

Your Legalities, Use of Substances, Financial Situation

57. Have you had any past arrests, warrants, charges, suits against you? How old were you and what were they about?
58. What amount of debt do you have?
59. Any drug or alcohol use? Why do you use it? Has anyone complained that you use too much or too often?

Your Mood

60. Have you ever had suicidal thoughts at any time in your life? How old were you? What happened?
61. What is your mood right now on a scale of zero (0) to 10, with zero meaning 'life is not worth living' and 10 meaning you are very optimistic and life is wonderful? What number do you give your mood?
62. Any thought of wanting to harm yourself or anyone else?

Your Final Thoughts and Understandings

63. What are your greatest strengths? And what skills or abilities do you currently have the most confidence in?
64. Having looked at your life from early days until now, what do you think may have contributed most to your present difficulties?
65. Of all the questions above, what has been most difficult for you to face?

66. If you were to continue on a path of change and growth what would you hope to achieve or what would be your goals in counselling?
67. What has it been like completing your Life Story Questionnaire?

ONLINE COUNSELLING SERVICE now available. Professional and Confidential. Do you or someone you know want to receive a one-year period of online counselling (as needed) by email exchange for a one-time low fee, from an **experienced MSW professional therapist**?

Follow these steps:

1. **Email this completed questionnaire** to collegemhc@gmail.com
2. Use this **secure Paypal link** for your one-time fee payment (copy and paste this link in your browser) <http://goo.gl/1fkWY>
3. Receive an **immediate reply** from the therapist who will provide suggestions, insights, assignments for healing, or ask more questions about your situation to take your progress further.

Looking for spiritual help or support? Visit www.wbschool.org and see this free download booklet <https://www.box.com/lovegod>