

11. Immigrants and Refugees

Related Core CFI Questions: 7, 8, 9, 10, 13

GUIDE TO INTERVIEWER: *The following questions aim to collect information from refugees and immigrants about their experiences of migration and resettlement. Many refugees have experienced stressful interviews with officials or health professionals in their home country, during the migration process (which may involve prolonged stays in refugee camps or other precarious situations), and in the receiving country, so it may take longer than usual for the interviewee to feel comfortable with and trust the interview process. When patient and clinician do not share a high level of fluency in a common language, accurate language translation is essential.*

INTRODUCTION FOR THE INDIVIDUAL BEING INTERVIEWED: Leaving one's country of origin and resettling elsewhere can have a great impact on people's lives and health. To better understand your situation, I would like ask you some questions related to your journey here from your country of origin.

Background information

1. What is your country of origin?
2. How long have you been living here in _____ (HOST COUNTRY)?
3. When and with whom did you leave _____ (COUNTRY OF ORIGIN)?
4. Why did you leave _____ (COUNTRY OF ORIGIN)?

Pre-migration difficulties

5. Prior to arriving in _____ (HOST COUNTRY), were there any challenges in your country of origin that you or your family found especially difficult?
6. Some people experience hardship, persecution, or even violence before leaving their country of origin. Has this been the case for you or members of your family? Can you tell me something about your experiences?

Migration-related losses and challenges

7. Of the persons important/close to you, who stayed behind?
8. Often people leaving a country experience losses. Did you or any of your family members experience losses upon leaving the country? If so, what are they?
9. Were there any challenges on your journey to _____ (HOST COUNTRY) that you or your family found especially difficult?
10. Do you or your family miss anything about your way of life in (COUNTRY OF ORIGIN)?

Ongoing relationship with country of origin

11. Do you have concerns about relatives that remain in (COUNTRY OF ORIGIN)?
12. Do relatives in (COUNTRY OF ORIGIN) have any expectations of you?

Resettlement and new life

13. Have you or your family experienced any difficulties related to your visa, citizenship, or refugee status here in _____ (HOST COUNTRY)?
14. Are there any (other) challenges or problems you or others in your family are facing related to your resettlement here?
15. Has coming to [HOST COUNTRY] resulted in something positive for you or your family? Can you tell me more about that?

Relationship with problem

16. Is there anything about your migration experience or current status in this country that has made a difference to your [PROBLEM]?
17. Is there anything about your migration experience or current status that might make it easier or harder to get help for your [PROBLEM]?

Future expectations

18. What hopes and plans do you have for you and your family in the coming years?