

Exercise #5
Reference Interview Scenarios
Putting It All Together

Part A

1. You have heard someone on TV say that sulfites are included as preservatives in some over-the-counter remedies. You are allergic to sulfites and wonder if the cold medicine that you have been taking may have been making you more rather than less uncomfortable.

Your opening line: Do you have information on sulfites?

2. Someone told you about the person who experimented with psychedelics and you know it has a three-letter word associated with it. If the librarian asks the right questions you'll remember it is Timothy Leary and LSD and you want to read about him. You'll be happy with an article or website.

Your opening line: Who was that guy who invented DNA?

3. You are a third-grader who has been given a list of questions to answer about the planet Earth: size, mass, weight, etc.

Your opening line: Where are your books on space?

4. You are a tenth grader who has been given an assignment to write a paper on something having to do with American history since 1900. The teacher is allowing you to pick any topic you want, as long as you can come up with 10 pages on it and include a bibliography.

Your opening line: Where are your history books?

OVER

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Part B

5. You would like to build a mailing list of businesses in a particular zip code.

Your opening line: Do you have a criss-cross directory?

6. You have heard that putting a penny in the vase with fresh cut flowers can help keep them fresher longer, and would like to know how this could work.

Your opening line: Do you have *Hints from Heloise*?

7. You are helping a neighbor plan for her daughter's *quinceañera*, a coming-of-age celebration. You'd like to have some ideas for what to use for *bolos* (commemorative favors) and, if possible, would like to know some history of the practice.

Your opening line: I need some information on Mexico.

8. You would like to know how old Britney Spears was when she became a Mouseketeer.

Your opening line: I'd like to see your biography section, please.