

Interviewer, observer and informant- different roles

In this group work you will be divided into three on each group. You will have one of three roles- either being an interviewer, observer or an informant. You have 90 minutes for this, and you will change roles every thirty minutes. Read below for the description of the different roles.

It is important to note that what is being talked about - that is of the informant's life- cannot be referred to later. That information stays between you three. When it comes to your experience in interviewing and doing research like this- this you can share.

Informant:

As an informant you should only answer and follow up the what the interviewer asks you, or initiate. You have to be honest in your reply, to make this work. If you manage this and are able to share of your life, hobbies etc- then the interview will be as realistic as possible. If you feel that certain aspects that you talk about is something you do not want to be brought further- please tell the two others, as they are bound to secrecy, but always good to point it out.

Interviewer:

You are interviewing the informant. It is important that you greet and meet the person in an acknowledging way, smiling and reassurance. Start the conversation with asking how the person got here or what their interests are etc- according what you have learnt in the Indirect approach. Follow the themes when natural. Do not write down anything. Follow the informant's rhythm, themes as you talk together.

The observer

You should observe how the interviewer manage to keep the conversation going. Certain points to remember:

- How is the communication?
- Do the interviewer use open questions?
- Do the informant get space to tell his/her story?
- Look at the sheet you have been given, and notice if the interviewer use any of the tools in the conversation- or whether he/she could have done that more
- Ask for timeout when you feel a reflection would be useful

When the session is drawing to an end

Reflect on how his went.

Write down

- What did you manage quite well?
- What was difficult?
- What do you want to improve/practise more?