SHOOTING A SIMPLE INTERVIEW

Filming Your Interview

When filming your interview, have your subject talk directly to the camera, framed in the centre of your shot.

Hold your camera or phone as steady as possible, using both hands and holding it close to your body.

Ask questions that cannot be answered by a simple yes or no. Use phrases like "Tell me about..." and "What do you think about...".

Filming Cutaways

Cutaways are shots relating to your interview that are used to cover up edits you've made to your interview footage.
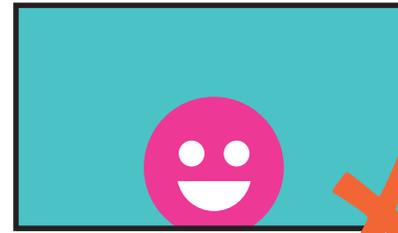
Choose some things that are easy to film and related to your interview and film LOTS of shots of these. Get close shots, medium shots and wide shots. You can never* have too many cutaways.

When shooting your cutaways, hold your camera or phone as steady as possible and record for 10-15 seconds minimum. This will give your editor the best possible shot to work with.
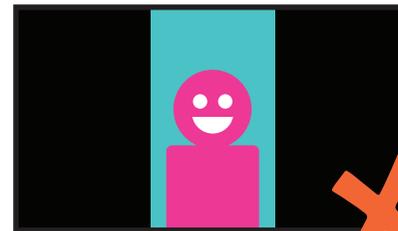
*almost never

Framing Your Subject

DO SHOOT HEAD AND SHOULDERS
Stand close enough that your microphone will record the person clearly and they won't be too quiet.

DON'T HAVE TOO MUCH HEADROOM
Empty space is boring.

DON'T CUT ANYONE OFF AT THE NECK
This creates a floating head effect.

DON'T HAVE BRIGHT LIGHT BEHIND YOUR SUBJECT
This will make your subject dark and silhouetted on camera.

DON'T HOLD YOUR PHONE UPRIGHT
Shooting vertically creates black bars and makes the video display very small in most video player software and online.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

For Young People

1. What is your name and involvement in the project?

2. What is the project you are involved in?

3. Have you enjoyed the project and why?

4. What has changed since completing the project?

For Staff and Volunteers

1. What is your name and involvement in the project?

2. What is the project you are involved in?

3. Has you project been a success and why?

4. What have the young people gotten out of being involved

Pro Tips

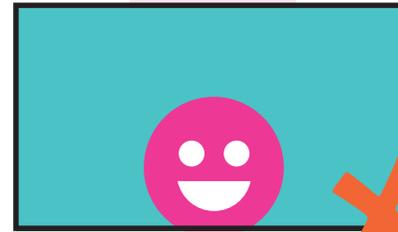Make sure the answers make sense without hearing the question.

ie: Have you enjoyed the project and why? - *"I really enjoyed the project because it helped me to learn new skills"*

Instead of: Have you enjoied the poject and why? - *"Yes"*.

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