Interview Guide
USS Constitution Museum

Introduction: “Hi, my name is _______________ and I am working with the USS Constitution Museum to help develop an exhibition about life at sea aboard “Old Ironsides” during the War of 1812. To assist the staff in making informed decisions about what should be included in the exhibition, would you be willing to spend **Ten** minutes answering a few questions? If you have a time restriction, you can leave at any point during the interview process. We are happy to receive any input you can provide. (Invite visitor(s) to sit at table.)

First we are trying to collect some information about who our visitors are, where they come from, etc. so I’m going to ask you a few basic questions:

1. **Note sex of interviewee:** ___male ___female

2. Where are you from? City ______________ State ______________ or Country __________

3. Please choose the card that most closely resembles your status today:
   ____ Adult Visiting alone
   ____ Adult Visiting with other adults
   ____ Adult Visiting with children
   ____ Adult Visiting with other adults and children
   ____ Child Visiting with other adults (age of interviewee _____)
   ____ Child Visiting with other adults and children (age of interviewee _____)

4. *(Family only)* Please describe the age and gender of each of your children with you today:
   
   Child #1 age _______ M F
   Child #2 age _______ M F
   Child #3 age _______ M F
   Child #4 age _______ M F
   Child #5 age _______ M F

5. Please choose the card or cards that best describe **you (your family)?**
   ____ Caucasian
   ____ African American
   ____ Latino
   ____ Asian
   ____ Other

6. Have you visited the USS Constitution Museum before? _____Yes _____No

7. Excluding the sites you’ve visited along the Freedom Trail today, how many historic sites do you/your family visit in a year?
8. Have you visited the USS CONSTITUTION today?  _____ Yes  _____ No

9. Do you plan on visiting the ship after the museum?  _____ Yes  _____ No

   If no, why?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

10. (Give visitor Form A.) Now I would like to ask you a few questions that will help guide design of the exhibit. First let me give you an overview of the proposed themes for the exhibit. Themes are the overarching statements that tie the exhibit together. I’d like you to take a look at each, and rank them according to your interest by placing an “X” in the appropriate column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Interested</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not At All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A unique isolated world afloat anchored on shore.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diverse Crew Works Together</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependence on Communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Sacrifice and Hardship for the Collective Well Being</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Individuals in Extraordinary Circumstances Changed the Nation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Can you tell me why you found these very interesting? (or) What did you like about them?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Why were these not of interest to you?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
11.  **(Family Only - Give visitor form B.)** Now I’d like you to look at these themes from your family’s perspective. Which themes would your family find most compelling and relevant? Please place an “X” in the appropriate column.

<table>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Can you tell me why your family would find these compelling and relevant?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Why were these not compelling and relevant?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

12.  **(Show visitor form C.)** Now I’m going to show you a proposed outline for the exhibit. I’d like you to take a look at each section, and rate it in order according to your interest.
Can you tell me why you found these very interesting? (or) What did you like about them?
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Why were these not of interest to you?
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

13. **(Family Only)** An exhibit about life at sea during the War of 1812 will address battle. Do you have any concerns about how we represent battle in an exhibit designed for families?

    Yes ________      No __________

    Please share your thoughts or concerns:
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

14. a) What is your level of interest in an exhibit about life aboard USS CONSTITUTION in 1812? Are you:

    ____ Very Interested  ____ Somewhat Interested  ____ Not Very Interested  ____ Not at all Interested

    Why?
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

b) **(Family Only)** What do you think your family’s level of interest in an exhibit about life aboard USS CONSTITUTION in 1812. Would they be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At All</th>
<th>Very Interested</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not Very</th>
<th>Not At All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruiting a Crew</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joining a Seafaring Community</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forging a Fighting Team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing the Crew in Battle</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returning Home</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
15. (Spread themes and exhibit outline cards on the table.) We want to make this exhibition experience interactive and interesting for adults, children, and families. This is your opportunity to tell the exhibit designers what you (or) your family would be interested in seeing and doing in an exhibit about life at sea.

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Interviewer’s Name: _________________________
Date: ____________________________________
Location: _________________________________
Interview #: ______________________________
Time of Interview: _________________________
Sex of Interviewee: _____M  _____F
Approximate Age of Interviewee:

   10-20 _____
   21-40 _____
   41-60 _____
   61-80 _____