**The Script – Immigration and Migration**

**NOTE: Feel free to alter the language of any question as long as the same information is gathered.**

1. “My name is (INTERVIEWER NAME) and I am interviewing (INTERVIEWEE NAME) in (LOCATION) on (DATE). Do you give me permission to record and make public this oral history?”
2. REMINDER: YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANWSER ANY QUESTION THAT MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE
3. How are you?
4. Please share as much basic information as you are willing to share:
   1. Name? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. Age? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. Occupation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. Neighborhood From? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   5. Borough? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   6. Place of Origin? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   7. Religion? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   8. First Language? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   9. Other Languages Spoken? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   10. Ethnic Identity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   11. Gender Identity/Preferred Pronouns? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   12. Sexual Orientation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nation of Origin -- YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANWSER ANY QUESTION THAT MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE

1. Could you describe what your life looked like before you came to the United States.
   1. How was your childhood in your place of origin?
2. Why did you leave your place/country of origin?
   1. How did you think the move would impact your future?
3. Why did you decided to come to the United States/NYC instead of another country/city?
4. What do you miss about your place/country of origin?
5. What were you happy to leave behind from your place/country of origin?
6. Was there anything you left behind because you worried you’d be judged?
7. What did your friends and family say when you told them you were leaving?
8. What were your expectations of the United States/NYC?
9. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to Affordability?
10. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to Opportunity?
11. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to Lifestyle/Culture?
12. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to Community?
13. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to Environment?
14. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to treatment of others?
15. How would you compare NYC to your homeland to Safety?
16. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to the relationship with government and law enforcement?
17. How would you compare NYC to your homeland in regards to Housing?
18. Were there any surprising similarities between your place of origin and NYC?

Journey to NYC -- YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANWSER ANY QUESTION THAT MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE

1. Tell me about your journey to New York.
   1. Could you describe it step-by-step from the day you left to the day you arrived?
   2. What, if any, obstacles did you encounter in the process of getting to NYC?
2. With whom did you come to NYC?
   1. What year?
   2. How old were you?
   3. Who was left behind?
3. What belongings did you have when you arrived?
   1. Were there any limitation on what you could bring?
4. How did NYC meet, or fail to meet your expectations?
   1. From what, or whom did you form your expectations of NYC before your arrival in the city?
5. What was it like for you when you first arrived in NYC?
   1. How did you, or your family, end up in your neighborhood?
   2. Did you find a community that made you feel like you belonged when you arrived?
6. What was the hardest part about your move to NYC?

Adjusting to NYC -- YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANWSER ANY QUESTION THAT MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE

1. How did you adjust to a new language and/or culture in NYC?
   1. How long did that process take?
   2. If you went to school in NYC after arriving, what was that transition like?
   3. What about your children, siblings or younger family members who spent more of their youth in NYC? How has it been different for them?
2. What did you, or your guardian, do for work when you first arrived?
   1. What was the process of applying for a job like when you first came?
   2. What has been the best—and the worst—job you’ve had since coming NYC?
3. How did you meet people when you first arrived?
4. What in your life keeps you connected to your nation/place of origin?
   1. How do you remind yourself of home?
   2. How do you remain connected to the people still living in your home country/community?
   3. Do you ever visit your original home? Why or why not?
5. Has living in NYC changed you in any way? If so, how?
6. If you do, how do you navigate a bilingual—or non-English—life?
   1. Do you serve as translator for anyone in your family? If so, what is that like?
7. Have you ever faced racism or anti-immigrant abuse for what you look like or where you’re from?
   1. Was there a moment that your realized you could be treated differently because you were an immigrant?
8. Was there ever a moment of regret for leaving? Can you tell me about that experience.
9. How would your life be different if you never came to NYC?
   1. How would you be different?

Becoming a New Yorker -- YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANWSER ANY QUESTION THAT MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE

1. What’s your favorite part about living in New York?
   1. What’s your least favorite part?
2. Who are the people who helped you along the way?
3. How has your neighborhood changed since your arrival?
4. Do you ever feel you need to hide who you are?
5. What has it been like navigating the U.S. immigration system?
6. If you’ve become, or are on the path to citizenship, please tell me about that process.
   1. What obstacles have you had to overcome in your pursuit of citizenship?
7. How has the politics of the last decade impacted your experience as an immigrant, and your community in NYC?
   1. Is there anything you feel should be changed?

Finishing Up -- YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ANWSER ANY QUESTION THAT MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE

1. What’s one piece of advice you would give to immigrants or migrants just arriving in NYC?
2. Do you plan to spend your whole life in NYC? Why or why not?
3. Is there anything that I should have asked that I didn’t ask?
4. Are You Still Comfortable Donating this Oral History?