

Grandparent Interview

How to Put the Book Together



Book Setup

Landscape

Margins

Top: 1

Left: 2

Bottom: 1

Right: 4

Sections

Cover

Title Page

Family Tree

Introduction

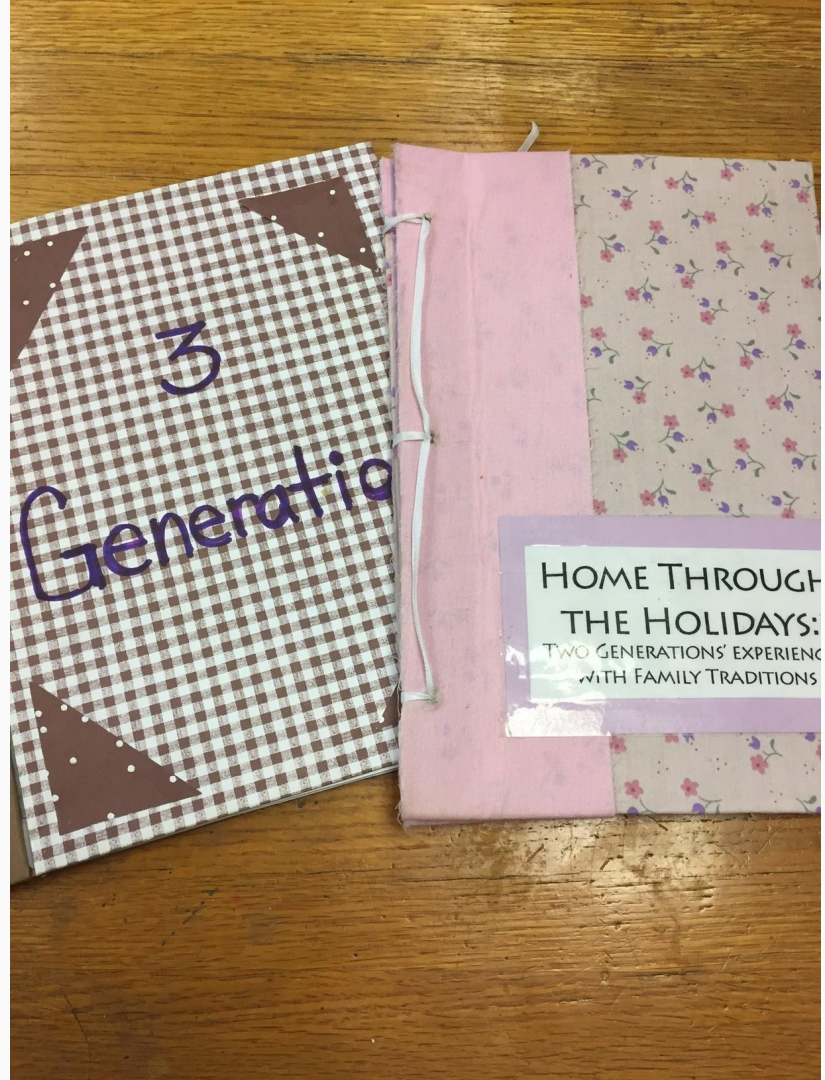
Q and A

What I Learned

Sections

Cover

- Title
- Name
- Attractive



Sections

Title Page

- Title
- Compiled by
- English 8
- Date

Home Through the Holidays: Two Generations' Experiences With Family Traditions

Compiled by Juleen Trisko
English 8
December 2016

Section

Family Tree

- Scan it in.
- Leave blank pages and paste it in.
- Make a pocket for it.
- Make it part of the endsheets.

Sections

Introduction

- Who is in this book.
Be specific!
Grandparents have
actual names.
- Your focus (topic)
- Where and when
- What you expected
- How the book is
organized

The Meeting Place

I sat down with my grandmother, my mother and my aunt to talk about school. We met at my grandmother's house because I wanted them all to answer the questions at the same time. I thought they might remember more if they could sit and talk to each other. I had already answered the questions myself before I came. I asked them each the same questions, but I didn't get the same answer from any of them. I was surprised.

I also liked going to my grandma's house because she always has something good to eat, usually chocolate chip cookies. We sat in her kitchen, ate cookies and drank pop. Since my grandma knew we were going to talk about school days, she brought out my mom's and my aunt's old high school yearbooks. She said she never had one of her own, but she did have her graduation picture.

I decided to focus on school because I am very active in sports and student council, and I wondered if my family had been, too. They don't really talk about school much. They all attended Northome School, just like I do. I wanted to see how much has changed over the years.

In the following pages, I list my mom as "Mom," my aunt as "Ginger," my grandma as "Gamma," and I as "Me." I have listed the question first in bold and the answers.

So blah, blah, blah, wrap it up here. Put a picture here or a clip art of some sort. Perhaps a sticker. You could do a drawing if you are so artistically inclined.

Sections

Q and A

- Put the question at the top of the page.
- Identify the speakers
- Write in complete sentences
- Use only ONE question per page
- Use the “Insert page break” option

How was Christmas celebrated at your home?

Grandma:

My grandma grew up during the Great Depression, so their family did not have a lot of money. . . .

Mom:

My mom used to go to her grandmother's house every Christmas to open presents

Me:

Each year we divide our time between my two sets of grandparents. We trade places every year so that one time Christmas day is with Grandma

Sections

What I Learned

- Describe what you expected and compare it to what you found out.
- Explain your biggest surprise.
- Did you discover similarities with your interviewee?

What I learned from these interviews:

This started off as a simple project I wanted to try out on my own before giving to my English 8 class. It has proved to be an insightful exercise. I learned a few things I hadn't known before.

What first struck me is how I and my sisters remember the turkey dinners we had on each of the holidays –and really enjoyed them– and our mother never had turkey on the holidays as a child. In fact, they didn't like turkey. I had to wonder how it got to be a tradition for our family and for my cousins' family when my mother and her sister never had turkey.

I also found that my mother and I like to tell a story with many words and lot of details. We usually get to a specific incident when we write. Amy speaks more in generalities, and Caroline says she doesn't remember much. Either my mom and I remember a lot or we just tell it as we would like to remember it. At the heart of each story is the truth and the spirit we want to convey to our readers. Dad always used to say, "Mama likes to tell stories," but I think that was only when he didn't want to admit she might be right. I guess I like to tell stories, too, but I know I'm right.

The one thing we all had in common was our feelings about the importance of family. Our memories, our values, and our choices all evolved from how we were raised.

--Juleen

Be sure . . .

- Questions and answers are separated on individual pages and not all lumped together.
- You keep the same order throughout. If you start with Grandma's answers, be sure you give those first for each question.
- Answers are thorough-- they should have a paragraph each. If the author just said, "yes" or "no," the author needs to go back and get more information.



you have no
more than

10

grammatical errors.

Be absolutely sure