

Checklist of Questions for Biography Paper

These questions are designed to help you shape the flow of your biography paper. **Do not answer these questions directly in your paragraphs.** If you do, the writing will feel robotic and flat. Instead, use these questions to help you brainstorm what topic each body paragraph will cover.

- Who is your biography paper about?
- What is the most important reason this person is famous?
- When and where was this person born?
- What's his/her family makeup - parents and siblings, spouse and children?
- What were one or two events that happened in the world when he/she was alive?
- How did those events impact the person?
- What are one or two experiences he/she had as a child?
- What was the greatest influence on him/her? (people, ideas, events)
- What is one important decision he/she made?
- What was the outcome of the decision and who was directly affected by it?
- What was one obstacle he/she had in his/her life?
- How did he/she solve that problem?
- What did he/she do that was important?
- How did he/she prepare for his/her success? (education, practice, never gave up)
- What is one way he/she affected or changed the world?