

# *Types of Questions*

*Interviewing*

# *TODAY*

*We will learn about* **open-  
and closed-ended  
questions, leading  
questions, when to prefer  
closed-ended questions,  
and challenging questions.**

*I will* **write questions for  
a story using the  
different types.**

# ***ON YOUR OWN***

*Imagine this scenario  
and answer what you  
think would happen?*  
**Why do you think  
your prediction  
would happen?**

You are investigating the rumor about bad test scores and get an interview with the principal. Your first question is: “Why is the school bad at getting students to learn information for a test?”

## ***ON YOUR OWN***

*Imagine this scenario and answer what you would do to collect information.*

The question will put the **principal on the defensive** because it **assumes the school is the reason** for low test scores. It may be true, but there could be another reason you don't know.

# ***YOU SHOULD HAVE LEARNED***

1. Closed-ended questions have limited- or single-word answers — good for collecting factual information.
2. Open-ended questions require the source to provide longer answers — good for getting direct quotes.
3. Interviews should be a mix of both.
4. Avoid leading questions that assume something not already established.
5. Some challenging questions may force the interview to end such as getting an authority figure's response to an accusation, or interviewing someone's loved one soon after they died. They are necessary but go last.