

## Highline Native Language Survey

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Home language(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Family U.S. Entry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This interview should be completed as much as possible in a conversational manner rather than just questions and answers. Feel free to ask additional questions or to include any additional relevant information shared by the family.

Tell me about the home

1. Where is the family from? What brought them to the US and the current community they live in?
2. What level of education do the parents have? What kinds of schools did they attend?
3. Who lives in the home? Which languages are spoken by each of these people? What are the ages of siblings? Who does your child spend the most time with?
4. Are there other family members who are an important part of your child's life who they see or talk to regularly? Who are they? Which languages are spoken by these people?
5. Are there other people who take care of your child? Who are they? Which languages are spoken by these people? Do you know which languages are spoken by any other children who are taken care of by these caretakers?

6. Are there many people who speak the home language(s) in the community? Can you give examples?
  
7. Does your family get any other exposure to the home language(s) in the community or at home? TV? Church? Community events?
  
8. Tell me more about your community. Are there people from other cultures around you? People who speak different dialects or languages around you?
  
9. Do you share stories (oral or written) in the home language(s) with your child? Has your child seen your home language(s) in a written format? Have you ever tried to show your child to read the home language(s)?
  
10. What is important for you to pass on from your culture to your child? How do you feel about your child speaking your home language(s)? Is this something important to you? If so, have you done anything to help your child maintain the home language(s)?
  
11. What do you think is important for your child to succeed in the US? What have you done to help your child with this?

Tell me about your child

12. What are you most proud of, or makes you happiest when you think about your child?  
What is your biggest concern?
13. When your child was first beginning to speak, which language(s) did they speak?
14. How old was your child when (s)he said her/his first words? Putting words together?
15. Did your child seem to learn to speak as fast as other children? Slower? Faster?  
Compared to their siblings?
16. Did/does your child attend preschool?
17. Has your child had any hearing problems? Frequent ear infections?
18. Has your child had any vision problems or other health problems you think we should know about?
19. Does your child have a hard time being understood by family members? Other people?  
In which language(s)?
20. Does your child have difficulty understanding family members? Other people? In which language(s)?

21. Does your child have difficulty pronouncing words? In which language(s)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
22. Does your child learn new things quicker, slower, or at an average rate compared to others?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
23. Would you say that your child spoke the home language(s) well before they started school (either preschool or regular school)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
24. Has your child's ability to speak the home language(s) stayed the same or changed since they've been in school?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
25. Do you think that your child has more, less, or equal difficulty in learning English compared to other children?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
26. Has your child received any formal education in the home language(s)? For how long?  
Can they read/write in the home language(s)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
27. Does your child still speak the home languages? With whom?

28. Do you feel that your child still understands the home language(s) well? Do they speak the home language(s) well?

29. Which language, of all the languages they may speak including English, do you think your child is most comfortable with? Why do you feel that way?

Let's talk about some specifics

30. Does your child use specific vocabulary or do they use a lot of generalities like "that thing?"

31. Does your child know vocabulary for colors, numbers, body parts, and household items (plates, telephone, bed, chair, etc.)?

32. Can your child retell a story that they know or they've read? With a lot of details?

33. Sometimes children don't want to follow directions but has your child shown you that they can understand directions when told to do something? Can you give an example?

34. If you asked your child how to do something, such as one of their chores, or something they usually do, can they explain what to do?

35. If you ask your child where something is do they usually point or can they use words to tell you?
  
36. Can your child explain why something happened such as why they were late or why they didn't finish their homework?
  
37. If your child was hurt or crying, could they tell you why?
  
38. If your child wants to know something can they ask you questions? (like how a toy is made, why is the sky blue, etc)
  
39. Does your child understand humor or jokes?
  
40. If your child wants something (like a new toy or to go somewhere fun) do they try to persuade you with their words? How?
  
41. Can your child tell you about something they've learned or are learning in school?
  
42. Is there anything else you would like me to know about your family or your child?