

MUTIMODAL LIFE HISTORY INVENTORY

The purpose of this inventory is to obtain a comprehensive picture of your background. In psychotherapy records are necessary since they permit a more thorough dealing with one's problems. By completing these questions as fully and as accurately as you can, you will facilitate your therapeutic program. You are requested to answer these routine questions in your own time instead of using up your actual consulting time (please feel free to use extra sheets if you need additional answer space).

It is understandable that you might be concerned about what happens to the information about you because much or all of this information is highly personal. Case records are strictly confidential.

Second edition. 1991

First edition. 1980. Published as the Multimodal Life History Questionnaire

Copyright – ©– 1991 by Arnold A. Lazarus and Clifford N. Lazarus

All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America.

No part of this inventory may be reproduced by any means without the written permission of the publisher.

Research Press

2616 North Mattis Avenue

Champaign, Illinois 61821

GENERAL INFORMATION

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone numbers: Day: _____ Evening: _____

Age: _____ Occupation: _____ Sex: Male Female

Date of Birth: _____ Place of birth: _____ Religion: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Does your weight fluctuate? Yes No If yes, by how much? _____

Do you have a family physician? Yes No

Name of family physician: _____ Telephone number: _____

By whom were you referred? _____

Marital Status (check one): Single Engaged Married
Separated Divorced Widowed Living with someone
Remarried How many times? _____

Do you live in: House Room Apartment Other: _____

With whom do you live? (check all that apply): Self Parents Spouse Roommate
Child(ren) Friend(s) Others (specify): _____

What sort of work are you doing now? _____

Does your present work satisfy you? Yes No

If no, please explain

What kind of jobs have you held in the past?

Have you been in therapy before or received professional assistance for your problems? Yes No

Have you ever been hospitalized for psychological/psychiatric problems? Yes No

If yes, when and where? _____

Have you ever attempted suicide? Yes No

Does any member of your family suffer from an “emotional” or “mental disorder”? Yes No

Has any relative attempted or committed suicide? Yes No

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL HISTORY

Father: Name: _____ Age: _____

Occupation: _____ Health: _____

If deceased, give his age at the time of death: _____

How old were you at the time? _____ Cause of death: _____

Mother: Name: _____ Age: _____

Occupation: _____ Health: _____

If deceased, give her age at the time of death: _____

How old were you at the time? _____ Cause of death: _____

Siblings: Age(s) of brother(s): _____ Age(s) of sister(s): _____

Any significant details about siblings:

If you were not brought up by your parents, who raised you and between what years?

Give a description of your father’s (or father substitute’s) personality and his attitude toward you (past and present):

Give a description of your mother’s (or mother substitute’s) personality and her attitude toward you (past and present):

In what ways were you disciplined or punished by your parents?

Give an impression of your home atmosphere (i.e., the home in which you grew up). Mention state of compatibility between parents and between children.

Were you able to confide in your parents? Yes No

Basically, did you feel loved and respected by your parents? Yes No

If you have a stepparent, give your age when your parent remarried: _____

Has anyone (parents, relatives, friends) ever interfered in your marriage, occupation, etc? Yes No

If yes, please describe briefly:

Scholastic strengths:

Scholastic weaknesses:

What was the last grade completed (or highest degree)? _____

Check any of the following that applied during your childhood/adolescence:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Happy Childhood | Not Enough Friends | Sexually Abused |
| Unhappy Childhood | School Problems | Severely Bullied or Teased |
| Emotional/Behavior Problems | Financial Problems | Eating Disorder |
| Legal Trouble | Strong Religious Convictions | Others: |
| Death in Family | Drug Use | Others: |
| Medical Problems | Used Alcohol | Others: |
| Ignored | Severely Punished | Others: |

DESCRIPTION OF PRESENTING PROBLEMS

State in your own words the nature of your main problems:

On the scale below, please estimate the severity of your problem(s):

Mildly upsetting Moderately upsetting Very severe Extremely severe Totally incapacitating

When did your problems begin?

What seems to worsen your problems?

What have you tried that has been helpful?

How satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?

Not at all satisfied 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Very satisfied

How would you rate your overall level of tension during the past month?

Relaxed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Tense

EXPECTATIONS REGARDING THERAPY

In a few words, what do you think therapy is all about?

How long do you think your therapy should last?

What personal qualities do you think the ideal therapist should possess?

MODALITY ANALYSIS OF CURRENT PROBLEMS

The following section is designed to help you describe your current problems in greater detail and to identify problems that might otherwise go unnoticed. This will enable us to design a comprehensive treatment program and tailor it to your specific needs. The following section is organized according to the seven modalities of Behaviors, Feelings, Physical Sensations, Images, Thoughts, Interpersonal Relationships and Biological Factors.

BEHAVIORS

Check any of the following behaviors that often apply to you:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Over Eat | Loss of Control | Phobic Avoidance | Crying |
| Take Drugs | Suicidal Attempts | Spend too much Money | Outbursts of Temper |
| Unassertive | Compulsions | Can't Keep a Job | Others: |
| Odd Behavior | Smoke | Insomnia | Others: |
| Drink too Much | Withdrawal | Take too Many Risks | Others: |
| Work too Hard | Nervous Tics | Lazy | |
| Procrastination | Concentration Difficulties | Eating Problems | |
| Impulsive Reactions | Sleep Disturbance | Aggressive Behavior | |

What are some special talents or skills that you feel proud of?

What would you like to start doing?

What would you like to stop doing?

How is your free time spent?

What kind of hobbies or leisure activities do you enjoy or find relaxing?

Do you have trouble relaxing or enjoying weekends and vacations? Yes No

If yes, please explain:

If you could have any two wishes, what would they be?

FEELINGS

Check any of the following feelings that often apply to you?

Angry	Fearful	Happy	Hopeful	Bored	Optimistic
Annoyed	Panicky	Conflicted	Helpless	Restless	Tense
Sad	Energetic	Shameful	Relaxed	Lonely	Others:
Depressed	Envious	Regretful	Jealous	Contented	Others:
Anxious	Guilty	Hopeless	Unhappy	Excited	Others:

List your five main fears:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

What are some positive feelings you have experienced recently?

When are you most likely to lose control of your feelings?

Describe any situations that make you feel calm or relaxed:

PHYSICAL SENSATIONS

Check any of the following physical sensations that often apply to you:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Abdominal Pain | Bowel Disturbances | Hear Things | Blackouts |
| Pain or burning with urination | Tingling | Watery Eyes | Excessive Sweating |
| Menstrual Difficulties | Numbness | Flushes | Visual Disturbances |
| Headaches | Stomach Trouble | Nausea | Hearing Problems |
| Dizziness | Tics | Skin Problems | Others: |
| Palpitations | Fatigue | Dry Mouth | Others: |
| Muscle Spasms | Twitches | Burning or Itching Skin | Others: |
| Tension | Back Pain | Chest Pain | |
| Sexual Disturbances | Tremors | Rapid Heart Beat | |
| Unable to Relax | Fainting Spells | Don't Like to Be Touched | |

What sensations are:

Pleasant for you?

Unpleasant for you?

IMAGES

Check any of the following that apply to you:

I picture myself:

Being Happy

Being Talked About

Being Trapped

Being Hurt

Being Aggressive

Being Laughed At

Not Coping

Being Helpless

Being Promiscuous

Succeeding

Hurting Others

Others:

Losing Control

Being in Charge

Others:

Being Followed

Failing

Others:

I have:

Pleasant Sexual Images

Seductive Images

Unpleasant Childhood Images

Images of Being Loved

Negative Body Images

Others:

Unpleasant Sexual Images

Others:

Lonely Images

Others:

Describe a very pleasant image, mental picture, or fantasy:

Describe a very unpleasant image, mental picture, or fantasy:

Describe your image of a completely “safe place”:

Describe any persistent or disturbing images that interfere with your daily functioning:

How often do you have nightmares?

THOUGHTS

Check each of the following that you might use to describe yourself:

Intelligent	A Nobody	Inadequate	Concentration Difficulties	Lazy
Confident	Useless	Confused	Memory Problems	Untrustworthy
Worthwhile	Evil	Ugly	Attractive	Dishonest
Ambitious	Crazy	Stupid	Can't Make Decisions	Others:
Sensitive	Morally Degenerate	Naïve	Suicidal Ideas	Others:
Loyal	Considerate	Honest	Persevering	Others:
Trustworthy	Deviant	Incompetent	Good Sense of Humor	Others:
Full of Regrets	Unattractive	Horrible Thoughts	Hard Working	
Worthless	Unlovable	Conflicted	Undesirable	

What do you consider to be your craziest thought or idea?

Are you bothered by thoughts that occur over and over again? Yes No

If yes, what are these thoughts?

What worries do you have that may negatively affect your mood or behavior?

On each of the following items, please mark the number that most accurately reflects your opinions:

	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>
I should not make mistakes.	1	2	3	4	5
I should be good at everything I do.	1	2	3	4	5
When I do not know something, I should pretend that I do.	1	2	3	4	5
I should not disclose personal information.	1	2	3	4	5
I am a victim of circumstances.	1	2	3	4	5
My life is controlled by outside forces.	1	2	3	4	5
Other people are happier than I am.	1	2	3	4	5
It is very important to please other people.	1	2	3	4	5
Play it safe; don't take any risks.	1	2	3	4	5
I don't deserve to be happy.	1	2	3	4	5
If I ignore my problems, they will disappear.	1	2	3	4	5
It is my responsibility to make other people happy.	1	2	3	4	5
I should strive for perfection.	1	2	3	4	5
Basically, there are two ways of doing things – the right way and the wrong way.	1	2	3	4	5
I should never be upset.	1	2	3	4	5

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Friendships

Do you make friends easily? Yes No Do you keep them? Yes No
Did you date much during high school? Yes No College? Yes No
Were you ever bullied or severely teased? Yes No

Describe any relationship that gives you:

Joy:

Grief:

Rate the degree to which you generally feel relaxed and comfortable in social situations:

Very Relaxed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Very anxious

Do you have one or more friends with whom you feel comfortable sharing your most private thoughts? Yes No

Marriage (or a committed relationship)

How long did you know your spouse before your engagement? _____

How long were you engaged before you got married? _____

How long have you been married? _____

What is your spouse's age? His/her occupation? _____

Describe your spouse's personality:

What do you like the most about your spouse?

What do you like least about your spouse?

What factors detract from your marital satisfaction?

On the scale below, please indicate how satisfied you are with your marriage:

Very dissatisfied 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Very satisfied

How do you get along with your partner's friends and family?

Very poorly 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Very well

How many children do you have? _____

Please give their names and ages:

Do any of your children present special problems? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Any significant details about a previous marriage(s)?

Sexual Relationships

Describe your parents' attitude toward sex. Was sex discussed in your home?

When and how did you derive your first knowledge of sex?

When did you first become aware of your own sexual impulses?

Have you ever experienced any anxiety or guilt arising out of sex or masturbation? Yes No

If yes, please explain:

Any relevant details regarding your first or subsequent sexual experiences?

Is your present sex life satisfactory? Yes No If No, please explain:

Provide information about any significant homosexual reactions or relationships:

Please note any sexual concerns not discussed above:

Other Relationships

Are there any problems in your relationships with people at work? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Please complete the following:

One of the ways people hurt me is:

I could shock you by:

My spouse (or boyfriend/girlfriend) would describe me as:

My best friend thinks I am:

People who dislike me:

Are you currently troubled by any past rejections or loss of a love relationship? Yes No

If yes, please explain:

STRUCTURAL PROFILE

Directions: Rate yourself on the following dimensions on a seven-point scale with “1” being the lowest and “7” being the highest.

BEHAVIORS:

Some people may be described as “doers” – they are action oriented, they like to busy themselves, get things done, take on various projects. How much of a doer are you?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

FEELINGS:

Some people are very emotional and may or may not express it. How emotional are you? How deeply do you feel things? How passionate are you?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

PHYSICAL SENSATIONS:

Some people attach a lot of value to sensory experiences, such as sex, food, music, art, and other “sensory delights.” Others are very much aware of minor aches, pains, and discomforts. How “tuned into” your sensations are you?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

MENTAL IMAGES:

How much fantasy or daydreaming do you engage in? This is separate from thinking or planning. This “thinking in pictures,” visualizing real or imagined experiences, letting your mind roam. How much are you into imagery?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

THOUGHTS:

Some people are very analytical and like to plan things. They like to reason things through. How much of a “thinker” and “planner” are you?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS:

How important are other people to you? This is your self-rating as a social being. How important are close friendships to you, the tendency to gravitate toward people, the desire for intimacy? The opposite of this is being a “loner.”

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

BIOLOGICAL FACTORS:

Are you healthy and health conscious? Do you avoid bad habits like smoking, too much alcohol, drinking a lot of coffee, overeating, etc.? Do you exercise regularly, get enough sleep, avoid junk foods, and generally take care of your body?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

BIOLOGICAL FACTORS

Do you have any current concerns about your physical health? Yes No

If yes, please specify:

Please list any medications you are currently taking:

Do you eat three well-balanced meals each day? Yes No

Do you get regular physical exercise? Yes No

If yes, what type and how often?

Please list any significant medical problems that apply to you or to members of your family:

Please describe any surgery you have had (give dates):

Please describe any physical handicap(s) you have:

Menstrual History

Age at first period: ___ Were you informed? Yes No Did it come as a shock? Yes No

Are you regular? Yes No Duration: _____ Do you have pain? Yes No

Do your periods affect your moods? Yes No Date of last period: _____

Check any of the following that apply to you:

	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Daily
Muscle weakness					
Tranquilizers					
Diuretics					
Diet pills					
Marijuana					
Hormones					
Sleeping pills					
Aspirin					
Cocaine					
Pain Killers					
Narcotics					
Stimulants					
Hallucinogens (e.g. LSD)					
Laxatives					
Cigarettes					
Tobacco (specify)					
Coffee					
Alcohol					
Birth control pills					
Vitamins					
Undereat					
Overeat					
Eat junk foods					
Diarrhea					
Constipation					
Gas					
Indigestion					
Nausea					
Vomiting					
Heartburn					
Dizziness					
Palpitations					
Fatigue					
Allergies					
High blood pressure					
Chest pain					
Shortness of breath					
Insomnia					
Sleep to much					
Fitful sleep					
Early morning awakening					
Earaches					
Headaches					
Backaches					
Bruise or bleed easily					
Weight problems					
Others:					
Others:					
Others:					

Please describe any significant childhood (or other) memories and experiences you think your therapist should be aware of: