

Nineteen Questions for Your Characters (Romance Novel edition)

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Interview your characters to find out what really makes them tick. The more detailed you get in the answers, the more you will know about them. Use this to interview your main characters, but also any supplemental characters that play a big role (like the villain). I'm including 19 questions you should always ask, but there are a few optional questions at the end you may want to add if it fits your style.

1. If you had a free day with no responsibilities, and your only goal was to enjoy yourself, what would you do?
2. What impression do you make on people when they first meet you? How about after they've known you for a while?
3. What's your idea of a good marriage? Do you think that'll happen in your life?
4. What are you most proud about in your life? If the character answers with a business or work achievement, ask them again – you want a personal answer.
5. What are you most ashamed of in your life? If the character answers with a business or work incident, ask them again – you want a personal answer.
6. If you could spend the day with someone you admire, living or dead or even imaginary, who would you pick and why? What would you do together, or discuss?
7. Do you think you've turned out the way your parents expected you to?
8. Is there anything you've always wanted to do or learn, but haven't? What would happen if you did that thing, or learned that thing?
9. What's the worst thing that's happened to you in your life? What did you learn from it?
10. Tell me about your best friend. How did you meet them, what do you do when you're together, and what do you think they like about you?
11. What's the worst thing you've ever done to someone? Why did you do it? What did you learn from it? What would have done differently?
12. What would you like it to say on your tombstone. If you can't think of something witty, what would you like people to remember about you?
13. Describe your ideal mate.
14. What are you most afraid of?

15. What's the most important thing in your life – what do you value most?
16. What do you like best about yourself? What do you like least?
17. What do you like best about the other character in the book? What do you like least?
18. How do you feel about life right now? What, if anything, would you like to change?
19. Are you lying to yourself about something? What is it?

Optional Questions

1. What do you believe about God?
2. What is your life's motivation? What drives you in life, love, and work?
3. What's your spirit animal? Why?
4. What's your super power?
5. Tell me a joke. (This will give you an idea about their sense of humor.)
6. When have you been most satisfied in your life?
7. What things are you asked to do that you hate to do, but will do anyway?
8. Are you keeping a secret?
9. When you walk into a room, what do you notice first? Second?
10. How do you decide if you can trust someone?

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