

# The Settlement Experience of Refugees in Alberta

A study being conducted for Citizenship and Immigration Canada

by the

Population Research Laboratory  
Department of Sociology, University of Alberta

YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE (Form B-2) 29/07/97

Questionnaire Number:

Enter Start time of interview here: \_\_\_\_\_ [a.m.] / [p.m.]

Enter End time of interview here: \_\_\_\_\_ [a.m.] / [p.m.]

Interview Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name)

**We will begin the interview with some questions about yourself and your family, and about when you first came to Canada.**

1. Sex: [DO NOT ASK]

Female ..... 1

Male ..... 2

2. When were you born? \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

3. What language did you first learn as a child? \_\_\_\_\_

4a. Do you speak any other languages?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 4b. What languages? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What language do you speak most often at home? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What language do your parents most often speak at home?  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. What is your ethnic origin (*cultural heritage*)? \_\_\_\_\_

8. In what country were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

9. When did you leave that country? \_\_\_\_\_ (mo/yr)

10. How long have you lived in this community (*current city/town*)? \_\_\_\_\_ (months)

11a. Did you come to Canada by yourself?

Yes ..... 2

No ..... 1 → → 11b. Who are you living with right now?

Parent(s) ..... 1

Siblings ..... 2

Other relatives ..... 3

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ .... 4

**Now I have some questions about your school experiences.**

12a. Did you go to school before you came to Canada?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 13]

Yes ..... 2 → → 12b. What is the highest level/grade of school you completed before coming to Canada? \_\_\_\_\_

12c. Did you have difficulty in school before coming to Canada?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 12e]

Yes ..... 2 → → 12d. Can you tell me about how you had difficulty in school? [PROBE]

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12e. Overall, did you enjoy school in (*home country*)?

No..... 1

Yes..... 2

**The next questions are about your school experiences here in Canada.**

13. Have you ever attended school in Canada?

No..... 1 [GO TO Q. 43]

Yes..... 2

14a. Did you ever change schools in Canada?

No .....2

Yes ..... 1 → → 14b. Why did you change schools? \_\_\_\_\_

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15. What grade were you placed in when you arrived in Canada? \_\_\_\_\_

16a. Do you think that was the right grade for you to be in?

No..... 1 → → 16b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Yes..... 2  
\_\_\_\_\_

17a. Did you ever consider dropping out of (high) school here in Canada?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 18]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 17b. Why did you think about dropping out of (high) school?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17c. Did you drop out of school?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 18]**

Yes ..... 2

17d. Are you glad you left?

No ..... 1 → 17e. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → 17f. Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17g. Did you ever go back to (high) school (*high school, college, or elsewhere*)?

Yes .....2 → 17h. Why did you return to (high) school?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**[GO TO Q. 18]**

No ..... 1 → 17i. What was the highest grade you completed?

\_\_\_\_\_ (*highest grade*)

17j. Do you plan to finish high school some time in the future?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 19]

Yes .....2 [GO TO Q. 19]

18a. Are you still attending (high) school?

Yes ..... 2 → → 18b. What grade are you in? \_\_\_\_\_ (*current grade*)  
[GO TO Q. 20]

No ..... 1 → → 18c. What was the highest grade you completed?

\_\_\_\_\_ (*highest grade*)  
[IF GR. 12 COMPLETED, GO TO Q. 19]

18d. Do you plan to finish high school some time in the future?

No ..... 1

Yes .....2

19a. Since leaving high school, have you taken any post-secondary education or training courses (*not including high school completion*)?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 20]

Yes ..... 2 → → 19b. Was this in a technical school, a community college or a university?

Alberta Vocational College .....1

Community college ..... 2

Technical school (*Nait, Sait*) ..... 3

University ..... 4

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ .....5

19c. Are you still enrolled/taking courses?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

19d. What kind of program are/were you in? (*e.g., welding, early childhood education, engineering, biology*)

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19e. Have you obtained a diploma or degree of some kind?

Yes ..... 2 → 19d. What kind of diploma or degree?

No ..... 1

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**Now, let's talk about your experiences in high school (even if you are not currently attending).**

20a. Have you enjoyed high school here in Canada?

Yes..... 2 → → 20b. Could you please tell me why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

No ..... 1 → → 20c. Why have you not enjoyed high school? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

21a. Have you had difficulty in high school here in Canada?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 22]

Yes..... 2 → → 21b. Did you have difficulty with specific courses (*math, science, English, etc.*)?

No ..... 1

Yes .... 2 → 21c. Which courses?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

21d. Did you have difficulty in other ways (*not in your courses*) in high school?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → 21e. Can you tell me about that?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

22. Have you skipped classes frequently in the past year? (*did you skip classes frequently when you were in high school?*)

- No ..... 1
- Yes ..... 2

23. What was your average (*grades, marks*) in your last school term?

- mostly A's (80%+) ..... 1
- mostly B's (79-70%) ..... 2
- mostly C's (69-60%) ..... 3
- mostly D's (59-50%) ..... 4
- mostly F's (under 50%) ..... 5

24a. Do/did you think most of your classes are/were useful in preparing you for further education?

- Yes..... 2
- No ..... 1 → → 24b. Why not?

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25a. Do/did you think your classes will be/were helpful in finding employment?

- Yes..... 2
- No ..... 1 → → 25b. Why not?

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26a. Do/did you think your classes help/helped you better understand Canada?

- Yes..... 2
- No ..... 1 → → 27b. Why not?

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27a. Do/did you get along with most of your teachers?

Yes..... 2

No..... 1 → → 27b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

28a. Are/were your teachers available and willing to help you when you needed it?

Yes..... 2

No..... 1 → → 28b. Why do you think they were not available and willing to help?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

29a. Do you think your teachers treat(ed) you differently than other students (*different from Canadian-born students*)?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 29b. How did they treat you differently?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

30a. Do you think that your ability to speak English had an effect on the way (some) teachers treat(ed) you?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 30b. Can you tell me about that?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

31a. Do you think your accent had an effect on the way teachers treated you?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 31b. Can you tell me about that?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



32a. Do you think you “fit in” at school?

Yes ..... 2

No ..... 1 → → 32b. Why not?

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33. At school, during your free time, how much time do/did you spend with students from your own cultural background. Would you say it was: **[READ]**

A lot of time ..... 3

Only some time ... 2

Hardly any time ... 1

34. During your free time at school, how much time do/did you spend with other immigrant or refugee students (*not the same cultural background as you*)? Would you say it was: **[READ]**

A lot of time ..... 3

Only some time ... 2

Hardly any time ... 1

35. During your free time at school, how much time do/did you spend with Canadian-born students?  
Would you say it was: **[READ]**

A lot of time ..... 3

Only some time ... 2

Hardly any time ... 1

35a. In your school, do you think that students from different cultural backgrounds get/got along well with each other?

No ..... 1 → → 35b. Why not?

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Yes ..... 2 → → 35c. Why?

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36. Overall, what are/were the things you like(d) most about the students in high school here in Canada?

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37. What are/were the things you like(d) least about the students?

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38. Overall, what are/were the things you like(d) most about your teachers here in Canada?

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39. What are/were the things you like(d) least about your teachers?

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40. Overall, what are/were the things you like(d) most about high school here in Canada?

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41. What are/were the things you like(d) least about high school?

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42. During your time in high school here in Canada, have you/did you ever go to talk to a guidance counselor?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 43]

Yes ..... 2 → → 42b. Why did you go to talk to a guidance counselor?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

42c. Was your discussion with the guidance counselor useful?

No ..... 1 → 42d. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → 42e. How was it useful? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

43a. Have you taken any English as a Second Language (ESL) courses here in Canada?

No..... 1 [GO TO Q. 48]

Yes ..... 2 → → 43b. Are you still enrolled in ESL classes?

No..... 1

Yes ..... 2

44. How long have you taken/did you take ESL? \_\_\_\_\_(months)

45a. Do/did you take ESL while attending regular high school?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 46]

Yes ..... 2 → → 45b. How is/were the ESL classes organized? Were/are they:

[READ and EXPLAIN]

Pullout (*short time each day with ESL teacher*)? ..... 1

Full-time ESL? ..... 2

Extra help from aide in regular class? ..... 3

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_ ..4

45c. In ESL classes, do/did you learn the same subjects as students in regular class? (i.e. English, math, social studies, etc.)

Don't know ..... 8

Same subjects ..... 2

Different subjects ..1 → 45d. What do/did you learn about?

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45e. Do/did you think teachers treat ESL students differently?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 45f. How do/did they treat them differently?

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45g. Do/did you think other students treat ESL students differently?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 45h. How do/did they treat them differently?

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46a. Do you think ESL helped you?

Yes..... 2 → → 46b. How? \_\_\_\_\_

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No..... 1 → → 46c. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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47. How do you think schools could best help students like you learn English?

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**Here are some more questions about education, how important it is to you and to other people you know. Please use the responses on this card.**

48. How important is/was completing high school to: [CARD A]

	<u>Not at all important</u>				<u>Very Important</u>		<u>Don't know</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	8	
a. you?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
b. your parents?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
c. your close friends?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
d. [IF APPLICABLE] your teachers?	1	2	3	4	5	8	

49. How important is going to university, NAIT or getting some other type of post-secondary education to: [CARD A]

	<u>Not at all important</u>				<u>Very Important</u>		<u>Don't know</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	8	
a. you?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
b. your parents?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
c. your close friends?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
d. [IF APPLICABLE] your teachers?	1	2	3	4	5	8	

**Now, I'm going to ask you to rate your own reading, writing and other abilities.**

50. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very basic and 5 being very advanced, at what level do you rate: [CARD B]

	<u>Basic</u>				<u>Very Advanced</u>		<u>DK</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	8	
a. your reading skills (in English)?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
b. your writing skills (in English)?	1	2	3	4	5	8	
c. your mathematical skills?	1	2	3	4	5	8	

d. your speaking skills (in English)?	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. your learning skills?	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. your team work skills?	1	2	3	4	5	8

51. Do you feel your reading skills may limit your job opportunities?

- No ..... 1
- Yes..... 2
- Don't know..... 8

52. Do you feel your writing skills may limit your job opportunities?

- No ..... 1
- Yes..... 2
- Don't know..... 8

53. Do you feel your speaking skills may limit your job opportunities?

- No ..... 1
- Yes..... 2
- Don't know..... 8

54. Do you feel your math skills may limit your job opportunities?

- No ..... 1
- Yes..... 2
- Don't know..... 8

**Now, I would like you to think about your future education and career plans.**

55a. Do you hope to get any further education or training in Canada?

No ..... 1 → → 55b. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

**[GO TO Q. 56]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 55c. What kind of education or training would you like to get?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

55d. Do you expect to achieve this level of education?

No ..... 1 → 55e. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes..... 2 \_\_\_\_\_

56a. What kind of job or career do you want eventually?

\_\_\_\_\_

56b. Do you expect to achieve this career ambition? (*Clarify if necessary*)

No ..... 1 → 56c. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes..... 2 \_\_\_\_\_

57. In the future, would you like to be self-employed?

Don't know ..... 8  
 No ..... 1  
 Yes ..... 2 → → 57b. What kind of business would you like to own?

\_\_\_\_\_

**The next questions about work and education are often asked of Canadian-born youth. We are interested in how you might answer.**

58. For each of the following statements, please tell me how strongly you disagree or agree using a scale where 1 means “strongly disagree” and 5 means “strongly agree.” [CARD C]

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>			<u>Strongly agree</u>		<u>Don't know</u>
a. I'd do just about any kind of work if it was a steady job.	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. If someone has worked hard in school, they deserve a good job.	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Post-secondary education is getting too expensive for me.		1	2	3	4	5 8

d. Programs in technical schools lead to good jobs.	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. I expect to go back to school more than once in my lifetime.	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. I need a university degree to get a good job	1	2	3	4	5	8
g. I expect to change jobs many times in my career.	1	2	3	4	5	8

**The next questions are about your work experiences, in Canada.**

59a. Have you *ever* had a paying job in Canada?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 61]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 59b. In total, how many paying jobs have you had in Canada?

\_\_\_\_\_ (no. of jobs in Canada)

59c. What was the first job you had in Canada?

\_\_\_\_\_

60a. Do you have a paying job right now?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 61]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 60b. How many hours per week do you usually work? \_\_\_\_\_

60c. What is your hourly rate of pay? \_\_\_\_\_ (\$/hour)

60d. Have you had any wage increases since you started?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

60e. Is this job permanent or is it temporary (*has a specific end date*)?

Permanent ..... 1

Temporary ..... 2

60f. What is your job? (*what do you do in your job?*)

\_\_\_\_\_



60g. How did you get this job? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

60h. How long have you had this job? \_\_\_\_\_(months)

60i. What are the most satisfying aspects of your job?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**[GO TO Q. 62]**

61a. Are you looking for a job right now (*i.e., currently unemployed*)?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 62]**

Yes. .... 2 → → 61b. For how many months have you been looking for a job?

\_\_\_\_\_ (no. of months unemployed)

61c. What kind of difficulties are you having finding a job?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Now, I would like to ask you about some other parts of your life. I will begin with your ideas on marriage and having children.**

62. Are you married, or have you ever been married (*current marital status*)? **[DO NOT READ]**

Married (and living with spouse) ..... 1 **[go to Q. 64]**

Married, spouse in different location ..... 2 **[go to Q. 64]**

Common-law relationship ..... 3

Separated/divorced (and not living with partner) ..... 4

Widowed (and not living with partner) .....5

Single (and not living with partner) ..... 6

Engaged ..... 7 **[GO TO Q. 63c]**

63a. Do you think that you will get married someday?

Don't know ..... 8 **[GO TO Q. 64]**

Yes ..... 2

No ..... 1 → → 63b. Why not?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**[GO TO Q. 65]**

63c. How old do you think you will be when you get married?

\_\_\_\_\_ (years of age)

63d. Do you think you will marry someone from the same cultural background as you?

No ..... 1 → → 63e. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → → 63f. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

64. How important is it to you and to other people in your life that you marry someone from the same cultural background as you? **[CARD A]**

	<u>Not at all</u> <u>important</u>				<u>Very</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>	<u>Not</u> <u>Applicable</u>
a. How important is it to you?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
b. to your mother?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
c. to your father?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
d. to your close friends	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
e. to your legal guardian?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9

65a. Do you have any children?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 66]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 65b. How many? \_\_\_\_\_

65c. Did you plan when to start having children?

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2

65f. How many children do you eventually expect to have?

\_\_\_\_\_ **[GO TO Q. 67]**

66a. **[IF R HAS NO CHILDREN]** Do you expect to have children someday?

No..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 67]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 66b. What age do you think you will be when you have your first child?

\_\_\_\_\_ (years of age)

66c. How many children do you eventually expect to have?

\_\_\_\_\_

***Now, I would like you to think more generally about marriage and having children.***

67. Most people think some things are more important than others in their decisions about when to get married. (Even if you don't plan to get married), how important do you think each of the following is before getting married? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all important" and 5 means "very important." **[CARD A]**

	Not at all important				Very Important	Don't know
a. Having a good job	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. Your partner having a good job	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Finishing your education	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. Your partner finishing his/her education	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. Being able to buy a house or afford accommodation	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. Having your parents' (guardian's) approval	1	2	3	4	5	8
g. Having some savings put aside	1	2	3	4	5	8
h. Getting settled in Canada	1	2	3	4	5	8
i. Finding the right community to settle in	1	2	3	4	5	8

68. Now thinking about having children, (even if you don't plan to have children) how important do you think each of the following is before having children? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all important" and 5 means "very important." [CARD A]

	Not at all important				Very Important	Don't know
a. Having a good job	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. Your partner having a good job	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Finishing your education	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. Your partner finishing his/her education	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. Being able to buy a house or afford accommodation	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. Having your parents' approval	1	2	3	4	5	8
g. Having some savings put aside	1	2	3	4	5	8
h. Getting settled in Canada	1	2	3	4	5	8
i. Finding the right community to settle in	1	2	3	4	5	8

**Now, I would like to ask opinions on a number of different ideas about jobs and families.**

69. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements, using a scale where 1 means "strongly disagree" and 5 means "strongly agree." How much do you agree or disagree that: [CARD C]

	Strongly <u>disagree</u>				Strongly <u>agree</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
a. Young people should expect to live at home with their parents until they have been working for a few years.	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. You are not really an adult until you have left home.	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. If women with children have to work, it is better for them to work part-time	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. It is acceptable for fathers to stay at home and raise children while their mother works.	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. A husband should be mainly responsible for earning						

the living for a family. 1 2 3 4 5 8

f. Grandparents or other relatives should look after children while their parents work. 1 2 3 4 5 8

g. A wife should be mainly responsible for raising the children in a family. 1 2 3 4 5 8

h. There should be more provision for child care so that women with young children can work. 1 2 3 4 5 8

**Now I would like to change the topic and ask about your settlement experiences in Canada.**

70a. Is (*name of community*) the first community in Canada you and your family have lived in?

Yes ..... 2 [GO TO Q. 71]

No ..... 1 → → 70b. What was the name of the first community you lived in?

\_\_\_\_\_

70c. Did you want to leave \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of first community*)?

No ..... 1 → 70d. Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Yes ..... 2 → 70e. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

71a. [IF R's PARENTS LIVE IN CANADA] Have you ever had to help your parents adjust to life in Canada? (*e.g., in translation, accessing services, explaining things*)

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 71b. How have you helped them? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

71c. Some young refugees have said that they feel a lot of pressure or conflict when they have to help their parents with translation or other adult matters. Other young refugees don't see this to be a problem for them. How about you? How do/did you feel when you had to help your parents in this way? **[PROBE]**

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72. For each of the following, please tell me how important you think they are for settling in and living successfully in Canada. Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means "not at all important" and 5 means "very important." **[CARD A]**

	<u>Not at all important</u>		<u>Very Important</u>			<u>Don't know</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	8
a. Learning to speak English	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. Finding a good job	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Having relatives close by	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. Having friends from the same cultural background	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. Being welcomed by the people who live here	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. Making Canadian friends	1	2	3	4	5	8
g. Having your own place of worship	1	2	3	4	5	8

73. Now I would like to ask you a few questions about keeping your culture. Using the same scale, how important is keeping your culture to: **[CARD A]**

	<u>Not at all important</u>		<u>Very Important</u>			<u>Don't know</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	8
a. you?	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. your parents?	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. your close friends?	1	2	3	4	5	8

d. your guardian(s)?	1	2	3	4	5	8
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74. Using the same scale, how important is being familiar with Canadian culture to: **[CARD A]**

	<u>Not at all</u> <u>important</u>				<u>Very</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>	<u>Not</u> <u>Applicable</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
a. you?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
b. your parents?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
c. your close friends?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9
d. your guardian(s)?	1	2	3	4	5	8	9

75. Different people are concerned (worry) about different things when they settle in a new country. How much are you concerned with each of the following issues? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means “not at all concerned” and 5 means “very concerned.” **[CARD D]**

	<u>Not at all</u> <u>Concerned</u>				<u>Very</u> <u>Concerned</u>	<u>NA</u>
	1	2	3	4	5	
a. Money ( <i>personal/family income</i> )?	1	2	3	4	5	
b. Finding or keeping a job?	1	2	3	4	5	
c. Learning English?	1	2	3	4	5	
d. Your future here in Canada?	1	2	3	4	5	
e. <b>[IF APPLICABLE]</b> Getting married?	1	2	3	4	5	9
f. Friends or relatives back home?	1	2	3	4	5	
g. Your own health?	1	2	3	4	5	
h. “Fitting in” in Canadian society?	1	2	3	4	5	
i. Past experiences and bad memories ( <i>before coming to Canada</i> )	1	2	3	4	5	

76a. Are there other people from (*home country*) living in this city?

Don't know .... 8 [GO TO Q. 77]

No. .... 1 [GO TO Q. 77]

Yes ..... 2

76b. Do the people from (*home country*) organize social events such as dinners, dances or other group activities?

No ..... 1 [GO TO Q. 77]

Yes ..... 2 → → 76c. Do you attend? [READ]

Often ..... 3

Sometimes, or ..... 2

Never? ..... 1

**Now I would like to ask you some questions about your city and how it might compare to other cities in Canada.**

77. Please respond to the following statements using a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means “strongly disagree” and 5 means “strongly agree.” [CARD A]

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>				<u>Strongly agree</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
a. ( <i>name of city</i> ) is a good place in which to live.	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. There are good job opportunities here for me.	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. ( <i>name of city</i> ) is a good place in which to raise a family.	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. The people in ( <i>name of city</i> ) are very friendly and welcoming.	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. I would rather live in a bigger city than here	1	2	3	4	5	8
f. I think that people are probably more friendly and welcoming in other places.	1	2	3	4	5	8
g. I would rather live in a smaller city than here	1	2	3	4	5	8

78. What would you say is the best thing about living there? [PROBE]

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79. What is the worst thing about living here? **[PROBE]**

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**The next questions ask about how different cultural groups get along together in Canada.**

80. Please respond to each of the following statements using the agree-disagree scale we used earlier, with 1 meaning “strongly disagree” and 5 meaning “strongly agree.” How much do you agree or disagree that: **[CARD C]**

	Strongly disagree			Strongly agree	
a. It’s good for ethnic groups in Canada to keep their first ( <i>heritage</i> ) language(s).	1	2	3	4	5
b. People who come to Canada should change their ways to be more like average Canadians.	1	2	3	4	5
c. Having many different cultural groups is good for Canada.	1	2	3	4	5
d. I would like to keep cultural traditions from my home country.	1	2	3	4	5
e. Having many different cultural groups in Canada makes it difficult to develop a sense of unity among Canadians.	1	2	3	4	5
f. I feel like a real Canadian.	1	2	3	4	5
g. I feel that there are too many immigrants coming to Canada.	1	2	3	4	5
h. Being in a multicultural society is one of the things I like best about living in Canada.	1	2	3	4	5

81a. Since you arrived in Canada, have you ever experienced discrimination or racism?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 82]**

Yes ..... 2 → → 81b. How often has this happened? Would you say: **[READ]**

Once or twice, ..... 1

Several times, or ..... 2

Very often? ..... 3

81c. Can you tell me about what happened? [**PROBE**]

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**Now let's change the topic to leisure activities, the kinds of things you do when you are not working or looking after household duties.**

82a. [**IF R IS STILL A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT**] Do you participate in non-course related (*extracurricular*) activities at school? (*sports, drama, choir, chess club, school dances, etc.*)

No. .... 1 [**GO TO Q. 83**]

Yes ..... 2 → → 82b. What kinds of (*non-course related*) activities?

**[Ask Q. 82c for each activity mentioned]**

82c. How often per month, on average?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

83a. Not counting what you do in school, do you participate in any (other) sports or recreational activities? (*soccer, bowling, tennis*)

No. .... 1 [**GO TO Q. 84**]

Yes ..... 2 → → 83b. What kinds of sports or recreational activities?

**[Ask Q. 83c for each activity mentioned]**

83c. How often per month, on average?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

84a. Do you go out for other activities such as eating out, going to a club, watching sports or going to a concert? [**PROBE**]

No. .... 1 [**GO TO Q. 85**]

Yes ..... 2 → → 84b. What kinds of activities?

[**Ask Q. 84c for each activity mentioned**]

84c. How often per month, on average?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

85. What kinds of things do you do at home for recreation or entertainment, when you have free time? Anything else? [**PROBE**]

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

86a. Do you participate in any volunteer activities in the community or your cultural group (*include voluntary activities for religious organizations, coaching or helping sports activities*)

No. .... 1 [**GO TO Q. 87**]

Yes ..... 2 → → 86b. What kinds of volunteer activity?

[**Ask Q. 86c for each activity mentioned**]

86c. How often per month, on average?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ → → \_\_\_\_\_ (no. of times/month)

87a. Do you follow what is happening in the news here in Canada? (*political/ economic issues*)

No ..... 1

Yes ..... 2 → → 87b. How do you find out what is happening?

\_\_\_\_\_

88. For you personally, is religion (spirituality) important? Would you say it is: **[READ]**

- Very important ..... 4
- Somewhat important..... 3
- Not very important ..... 2
- Not at all important ..... 1

89a. Do you attend some place of worship (*church, mosque*) on a regular basis?

No ..... 1 **[GO TO Q. 90]**

Yes .... 2 → → 89b. What kind of place of worship (*type of religious organization*)

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89c. About how often do you attend? Would you say: **[READ]**

- Several times a week ..... 1
- Every week, ..... 2
- Once or twice a month, ..... 3
- Every several months, or ..... 4
- Once or twice a year? ..... 5

90. Not counting at school or at a job, how often, in the past few months, have you spent time with the following people? Would you say never, sometimes, often, or daily? **[CARD F]**

	<u>Never</u>	<u>Some-</u> <u>times</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Daily</u>
a. Family and relatives? ( <i>outside your household</i> )	1	2	3	4
b. Friends from ( <i>home country</i> )?	1	2	3	4
c. Other immigrants ( <i>from a different culture</i> )	1	2	3	4
d. Other Canadian friends?	1	2	3	4
e. Neighbours?	1	2	3	4

**The next questions ask about your health, and about how you feel about life in general, when you first came to Canada.**

91. When you first came to Canada, how healthy did you feel physically? Did you feel: **[READ]**

- very healthy, ..... 4
- somewhat healthy, ..... 3
- unhealthy, or ..... 2
- or very unhealthy? .....1

92. How healthy did you feel psychologically (*mentally*)? Did you feel: **[READ]**

- very healthy, ..... 4
- somewhat healthy, ..... 3
- unhealthy, or .....2
- or very unhealthy? .....1

93. When you first came to Canada, how stressful was your life? Would you say: **[READ]**

- very stressful, ..... 4
- somewhat stressful, ..... 3
- not very stressful, or..... 2
- or not at all stressful? .....1

94a. In the first year, how happy or sad did you feel? Would you say you felt: **[READ]**

- very happy, ..... 5 **[GO TO Q. 95]**
- somewhat happy, ..... 4 **[GO TO Q. 95]**
- both sad and happy, ..... 3 → → 94b. Can you tell me about it? **[PROBE]**
- somewhat sad, or ..... 2 → →
- very sad? ..... 1 → → \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

*Now let's talk about your health and feelings in the past month.*

95. In the past month, how healthy have you felt physically? Would you say: **[READ]**

- very healthy, ..... 4
- somewhat healthy, ..... 3
- unhealthy, or .....2
- or very unhealthy? .....1

96. In the past month, how healthy have you felt psychologically (*mentally*)? Would you say: **[READ]**

- very healthy, ..... 4
- somewhat healthy, ..... 3
- unhealthy, or .....2
- or very unhealthy? .....1

97. In the past month, how stressful has your life been? Would you say: **[READ]**

- very stressful, ..... 4
- somewhat stressful, ..... 3
- not very stressful, or..... 2
- or not at all stressful? .....1

98a. Overall, how happy or sad have you felt in the past month? Would you say: **[READ]**

- very happy, ..... 5 **[GO TO Q. 99]**
  - somewhat happy, ..... 4 **[GO TO Q. 99]**
  - both sad and happy..... 3 → → 98b.Can you tell me about it? **[PROBE]**
  - somewhat sad, or ..... 2 → →
  - very sad? ..... 1 → → \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

99. **[IF R IS STILL A STUDENT]** If you had a serious problem at your school, who could you talk to about it, if you wanted to?

\_\_\_\_\_

100. If a serious health problem (for you or your family) came up, who could you talk to about it, if you wanted to?

\_\_\_\_\_

101. If you had a serious personal problem, who could you talk to about it, if you wanted to?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Let's change the topic now and talk about Canadian citizenship.**

102a. Are you a Canadian citizen, or have you and your parents applied?

Not a citizen .....	1	→ →	102b. Do you plan to apply for Canadian citizenship some day?	
Have applied .....	2			
Canadian citizen .....	3			
			No .....	1
			Yes .....	2

103. What does being a Canadian citizen mean to you? **[PROBE]**

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**Let's finish with a few questions about the experiences of refugee youth, and any advice you might give new refugees coming to Canada.**

104. What advice would you give other refugees coming to Canada about how to integrate successfully into Canadian society? Anything else? **[PROBE]**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

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(2) \_\_\_\_\_

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105. What advice would you give to Canadians about helping refugees adjust to life in Canada? Anything else? **[PROBE]**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

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(2) \_\_\_\_\_

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106. Is there anything else about your experiences before or after coming to Canada that you want to talk about? [**PROBE; anything else?**]

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**That was my last question. Thank you very much for taking the time to be interviewed about your experiences as a refugee in Canada. Your answers have been very helpful.**

**As I said when we started, your name will never appear with any of your answers. Since we are interviewing several hundred other refugees across the province, it will never be possible for anyone to find out who said what.**

**[GIVE RESPONDENT \$20 for expenses, issue receipt]**

**POST-INTERVIEW QUESTIONS and LOCATING RESPONDENTS INFORMATION**

**End time of interview:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Database Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Arrival in Canada (day/month/year):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(from original database):**

**Contact Information:**

**[Record all contacts (date/person contacted/address and/or phone number/outcome)]**

**1.** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**2.** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**3.** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**4.** \_\_\_\_\_

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Date Interview Completed (day/month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Length: (minutes) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interpreter: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Assessment:

Very easy to complete ....	1	
Somewhat easy .....	2	
Somewhat difficult .....	3 →	Why was interview difficult?
Very difficult .....	4 →	_____

If interpreter required:

Interpretation appeared to be very successful .....	1	
... somewhat successful ..	2	
... somewhat difficult ....	3 →	Why was interpretation difficult?
... very difficult .....	4 →	_____

Were other family members present during interview?

No .....	1		
Yes .....	2	→Did this create difficulties?	No .... 1
			Yes .... 2

[IF YES] Why did their presence create difficulties?

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***The Settlement Experience of Refugees in Alberta***

**\$20.00 RESPONDENT COMPENSATION RECEIVED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Interviewer

**\$20.00 TRANSLATOR COMPENSATION RECEIVED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Translator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Interviewer