

Radio Interview: First Woman

Callista Rodriguez just finished her first mission on the moon – she is the greatest star of NASA with her ingenuity, quick wit, and her self-made robot colleague RT. The radio station of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University – where Callie used to be a student – wants to honor her return with a small radio show to talk about the origins of this legendary person. The possible guests on the show are:

- a) Callie Rodriguez, the first female astronaut to go to the moon
- b) Jean Rodriguez, Callie’s mother, and former student of the university
- c) RT, Callie’s creation and the first sophisticated AI-robot to go to space

Record your interview as an audio file on your phone – instructions for recording audio files can be found in the **help section** below. The interview should be at least three minutes long.

Tasks:

- 1.) Get together with a partner.
- 2.) Discuss: What is the goal of the radio interview? Who is it for? What kind of show do you want to do?
- 3.) Discuss interview techniques: What kind of questions are usually posed in good interviews? How can you encourage a guest to give an interesting answer?
- 4.) Discuss the tone of the interview – how do hosts and guests talk in an interview?
- 5.) Discuss your ideas with the whole class and take notes on interview structure, tone, and techniques. (Classroom discussion)
- 6.) Make a choice: Which one of you is the interviewer and who is the guest? Pick one of the possible roles.
- 7.) Take the worksheet with your role. Read the instructions carefully and begin to take notes on the interview. This is done without your partner. (Work on your own)

Help section:

- Find the existing tool for recording on your phone: For iPhones, go to the the “Dienstprogramme”, find the “Sprachmemos” app. For Android phones, go to “Werkzeuge” and select “Rekorder”.
- Make sure you know where the microphone is on the phone.
- Spread out and find a reasonably quiet space – you want to minimize background noises.
- To begin recording, start by pressing the “record” button or a red square. To finish, press the same button again.
- Make sure to position the microphone about 15 centimeters away from the speaker’s mouth.
- Check your audio, preferably with a pair of headphones. It should be free of background sound and loud enough to hear, but not so loud that it crackles. Record a test file for 10 seconds and then play it back; adjust microphone position based on volume.
- After you finish, make sure to enter a title for the recording and save it.
- To give the file to your teacher, you can either email it directly or upload the file to the school’s learning platform (Moodle, iServ, etc.)

The interviewer – Role description

You are a student at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, the school where Callie went as a young woman to pursue her education. Now, she is a famous astronaut who just returned home from her first mission in space. You are going to conduct an interview with your esteemed guest. Your goal is to give your audience an idea of this famous person, where she came from and how she found a way to reach the stars.

As the interviewer, you can shape the interview. Possible topics you could address with your questions include:

- Callie’s childhood
- how Callie followed her dream of becoming an astronaut
- the creation of RT and the relationship between Callie, RT (and Arturo, Callie’s father)
- Callie’s education
- Callie’s relationship with her parents
- struggles and successes

Think of questions to pose; make sure to give some variation to be interesting for your audience.

Note: this is a conversation, so do not just rattle off your questions; React to what your interviewee says!

Don’t forget to give a short introduction for your guest to clue in your audience: **who** are you talking to? **Why** do you want to talk to them?

Notes for the interview:
Introduction:
Questions:

Callista “Callie” Rodriguez – Role description

You are back from space, where you were on a mission as the first woman on the moon. Of course, when a radio host from your old school asks you for an interview, you accept happily. Your goal is to share your enthusiasm for space and for following your dreams.

Callie is a complex young woman of color with an interesting back story. It is important to stay in character, but you can choose which character traits you want to focus on. If you are unsure, go back to the graphic novel or audiobook and look at how Callie thinks, speaks, and acts.

The interviewer told you beforehand that they are interested in the following topics:

- your childhood
- how you followed your dream of becoming an astronaut
- the creation of RT and the relationship between you, RT (and Arturo, your father)
- your education
- your relationship with her parents
- struggles and successes

Take notes on these aspects but **keep them short**. The interview is a conversation, so react to the questions naturally.

Notes for the interview:

RT– Role description

You are back from the moon, where you were on a mission as the first sentient robot with a fully working artificial intelligence. When a radio host from Callie's old school asks you for an interview, you are excited. Your goal is to talk about your experiences as a walking, talking robot who sees Callie as family and is proud of her accomplishments.

RT is a relatively “young” robot and easily excitable. It is important to stay in character, but you can choose which character traits you want to focus on. If you are unsure, go back to the graphic novel or the audiobook and look at how RT thinks, speaks, and acts.

The interviewer told you beforehand that they are interested in the following topics:

- Callie's childhood
- how Callie followed her dream of becoming an astronaut
- your creation and the relationship between Callie and you (and Arturo, Callie's father)
- Callie's education
- Callie's relationship with her parents
- struggles and successes

Take notes on these aspects but **keep them short**. The interview is a conversation, so react to the questions naturally.

Notes for the interview:

Jean Rodriguez – Role description

Your daughter has just come back from space, and you are very proud of her accomplishments. When a radio host from Callie's (and your!) old school asks you for an interview, you are thrilled. Your goal is to talk about your relationship to your daughter, her success, and struggles and how you and your late husband always encouraged her to follow her dreams.

Jean is a middle-aged woman of color who is immensely happy to see her daughter succeed. It is important to stay in character, but you can choose which character traits you want to focus on. If you are unsure, go back to the graphic novel or the audiobook and look at how Jean thinks, speaks, and acts.

The interviewer told you beforehand that they are interested in the following topics:

- Callie's childhood
- how Callie followed her dream of becoming an astronaut
- RT's creation and the relationship between Callie, RT (and Arturo, Callie's father)
- Callie's education
- Callie's relationship with you and her father
- struggles and successes

Take notes on these aspects but **keep them short**. The interview is a conversation, so react to the questions naturally.

Notes for the interview: