



## Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue

### Liz McLachlan – Journalist

Before watching Liz McLachlan's interview, discuss what you know about using Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue in informative writing.

Now watch the interview and use the following questions to prompt discussion as a whole class or in groups.

#### Discussion Questions

1. According to Liz McLachlan, what are the core questions to ask in an interview?
2. What do quotations from real people do in an informative text, besides convey information?
3. What does Liz say quotations do to the reader?
4. What kinds of people in general does Liz look for, to approach for an interview?
5. What skill or characteristic makes some people really good to interview?
6. How does this make the journalist's job easier?
7. What advice does Liz give when interviewing experts or authorities in their professional capacity?
8. Does Liz have any tips about how to organise multiple quotes in a text?
9. What suggestion does Liz have for those times when a person doesn't answer the question, or doesn't answer it clearly enough?
10. Near the end of the interview, Liz repeats a mnemonic she was taught in journalism school to help her cover everything in an interview. It was GOSS – can you remember what the letters stand for?

#### FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITY

Set a topic for the class – you could use Liz's example of the new school building design. As a class, brainstorm all the people who would have something to say about an innovative new school building. Liz mentions the architect and the lead teacher, but who else might be an expert or authority, have personal or professional experience and opinions? Create a list and have students draft questions for an interviewee of their choice. Role-play the interviews if you have time.