

## **Structured Student Interview – Asperger Syndrome**

Directions: This is an interview designed to elicit responses from a student that may help an evaluator understand how the student *thinks* about social information. This is not a diagnostic tool, it is an *informal informational interview*.

*(When interviewing, note any odd speech patterns or echoed phrases)*

1. What is your favorite thing to talk about? *(Elaborate on this. Create an initial dialogue by showing interest in the favorite topic)*
2. Do you have a best friend? What is your best friend's name? How do you know he is your best friend?
3. What is one thing you really like about your best friend? (if no best friend, use mother)
4. What do you do with your best friend? Do you two talk on the phone, text message or e-mail? Ever sleep over?
5. Name one thing your best friend thinks is really important? One thing he thinks is really funny.

***(Is the student using emotional language? Are his thoughts about friendship at age level or younger?)***

6. What is an important rule at your school? Why do you think schools need rules?

7. Tell me something that really makes your teacher mad? Why do you think that would make her/him mad?

8. How can you tell when your teacher is mad?

9. What is the best thing about school?

10. What is the worst thing about school?

***(remember to share something about yourself and wait for the student to ask you more about it or expand on what you say)***

11. Who do you usually eat lunch with?
  
12. Have you ever had trouble getting along with other people?
  
13. What is the most frustrating thing about adults? What about people your own age?
  
14. Would you like to get married someday? Why do you think people would want to get married? (***listen for emotional language – love, care, etc.***)
  
15. What would you like to be when you grow up, or what kind of job would you like to have? What are some of the things you will need to do to make that happen?
  
16. Have you ever been teased? What kind of things have you been teased about?
  
17. What kind of things make you really mad at school? What do you usually do when you get mad? Does that work?

18. What can you tell about a person by looking at their face? (***does he know that the face contains a message?***)

19. If you had 3 wishes for your friends (classmates) for things that they would really want, what would they be? (***does he seem insightful about another person's desires or simply wish for them what he would want?***)

20. Solve this situation: You come home from school and you go into the kitchen and you find your mother crying. What would you do? (***does he mention comforting her or use comforting language like "I love you" or "it will be all right"?***)

Why would you do that?

Notes about the interview: