## Preparing for Your Oral History Report

Now it's time to gather all that you have learned about your family and write it down so that it never becomes lost! Oral histories are rich with facts and surprises about the past, but they have *one major problem*: when the person telling the oral history leaves or passes away, everything they had to tell disappears with them.

**YOU have a rare and valuable chance to save your family history!**

Before you start writing, make sure you know what you're doing. We have talked about all these terms in other lessons and projects:

**topic** = what you're talking or writing or reading about
**topic sentence** = sentence that tells your topic and what you will say about it
**paragraph** = 3 or more sentences about one topic

**essay or report** = 5 or more paragraphs about one topic

**introduction** = beginning PARAGRAPH that tells your topic and 3 important ideas about the topic
**body** = 3 or more middle PARAGRAPHS where you put information (details) about each important idea
**conclusion** = ending PARAGRAPH where you summarize your ideas and say again why they are important

### Test yourself!

What are the 3 main parts of an essay or report? _____
How many paragraphs <u>must</u> an essay or report have? (It can have more.) ____
In which paragraph of an essay or report do you put the topic sentence? _____
_____
What does an introduction paragraph tell you? _____
In which essay or report paragraph do you say your most important ideas again, but using only a few words? _____
In which essay or report paragraphs do you put most of the details about your most important ideas? _____
What is a paragraph? _____
What does a topic sentence tell? _____
What is the greatest problem of oral histories? _____
_____