

## **Festman, J.: Language control of late bilinguals - Bilingual interview schedule**

**We would like to do an interview with you now. During this interview, you should focus on one topic at a time, e. g. life in Germany, and only in one language. This means that I will ask a question in German, and you should try to only respond in German. Then, after 5 minutes, my Russian colleague will ask a question in Russian, which should be answered in Russian only. After each topic, we will change the language. The questions should only be answered in the language we use for asking them.**

### **1. The first question is about your life in Germany, in Magdeburg.**

For how long have you been living in Germany?

How do you feel living in Germany, in Magdeburg?

What do you like in Germany?

Do you like Germany, or would you prefer any other German city?

What was the time like when you arrived in Germany, in Magdeburg?

What made it easier for you at the start?

Do you have friends here, also Russian friends? Tell me about them.

### **2. What is your profession?**

Did you study? Or what did you learn?

What do you do today professionally?

Did you take additional courses in Germany?

Had you already been working before migrating to Germany, and if yes, for how long?

Do you think that there is a difference between working in Russia (or any other country which once was part of the former Soviet Union) and working in Germany?

unemployed: For how long have you been unemployed?

Did you already have the opportunity to take on a job in Germany?

Why exactly is it so difficult to find a job or a position here?

What kind of support could you find so far?

What kind of job would you like to have and where?

Do you think you would be luckier finding work in Russia?

Student:

What is your field of study?

When did you start studying?

Why did you decide on Magdeburg as your place of study?

Are you happy with your studies?

Do you live in dorms or in an apartment?

In which profession would you like to work after completion of your studies? In which country would you like to work?

Are there other Russians in your courses?

### 3. Tell me a bit about your family.

Where do you come from? Where did you grow up?

How large is your family? Tell me a bit about your children, your brothers and sisters. Where do they live and what do they do?

Is a part of your family still in Russia?

Do you have family reunions, and where do they take place? Which language do you use to talk to the members of your family?

What do you think is typical for a Russian-German family?

Is there a difference between Russian-German and Russian families living in Germany?

### 4. Tell me about your experiences in Russia and why you wanted to leave.

Did you feel good in Russia? If yes/no, why?

What did your parents and grandparents tell you about Russian-Germans, when you were little?

What experiences did you make with your name / last name?

How did life of a Russian-German change in Russia from generation to generation?

### 5. What do you do during your leisure time?

What do you like doing most of all during weekends?

Do you do sports?

Do you like going to the movies or to the theatre? What do you like to see?

Do you read literature, Russian or German? If yes, who is your favourite writer?

Do you read Russian newspapers?

Do you visit the city library / public library? What are you most interested in when you go there?

Do you do any of your hobbies together with your family or with some of your friends? If so, what do you do?

Which place would you like to travel to?

## 6. What does home country mean to you?

Do you consider Germany or Russia your home country?

When thinking of home country while still in Russia, did it mean something different to you?

Do you miss the Russian culture?

How often do you travel back to Russia?

Are you still in connection with your friends in Russia?

How do you celebrate the New Year?