

RESEARCH QUESTION

How does auto-autobiography differ from oral history?

Automated Biographical Elicitation and Re-tell (ABER) as producer of *Auto-autobiography*.

Comparing oral history research, interpretation practices, and preservation standards to commercial legacy products that generate historical narratives from digital query protocols or conversational AI.

HISTORICAL STANDARDS & ETHICS



Ethics, values, and practices consolidated from the OHA “suite of statements,” (2018); AHA “Discipline Core” (2016); NCHS “Historical Thinking Standards” (1996)

EVALUATION CRITERIA FRAMEWORK

Elicit

12 CRITERIA

How the agent draws out the narrator's account

Re-tell

7 CRITERIA

How the agent turns what was elicited into an account

Interpet

9 CRITERIA

How the agent values, weighs, orders, and explains content and context.

Retain

5 CRITERIA

How the agent retains the record after elicitation or re-tell

CASES FOR ANALYSIS (COMMERCIAL LEGACY PRODUCTS)



Rubric: The agent, method, or record is

Foundational ethics, practices, disciplinary expectations and characteristics in making historical claims and representing the past through oral history

Elicit (12)

Inclusive
Trained
Scoped
Transparent
Consent-based
Responsive
Accurate
Candid
Protective
Relational
Collaborative
Community-engaged

Offer rationale to document person/story over others
Meet recognized training obligations for interviewer
Pre-plan and define depth and sequence of inquiry
Communicate purpose and process of inquiry openly
Obtain, co-construct, renew, & honor narrator's consent
Balance scope/structure with adaptive improvisation
Verify asserted facts /address errors & inconsistencies
Encourage safety & press beyond superficial response
Anticipate and prevent potential harm from encounter
Engage the narrator as a full person
Ensure co-construction and co-ownership of the inquiry
Involve and build from relevant stakeholder networks

Interpret (9)

Determines Significance*
Establishes Chronology
Explores cause/contingency
Questions Framing
Sources
Contextualizes*
Decodes
Considers Perspective
Reconciles Inconsistencies

Explain criteria determining historical importance
Select events and order them in time
Weigh the impact of antecedent events
Explain values behind selected lines of inquiry
Determine a source's origins, credibility, purpose
Determine how events, people, time frame narrative
Establish the source's literal meaning (in context)
Recognize how agents reach differing viewpoints
Identify and explain gaps and contradictions

Re-tell (7)

Faithful
Documented
Accountable
Reviewable
Tentative
Protective
Co-Authorship

Discern narrator's meaning using appropriate context
Cite supporting material using disciplinary conventions
Own and document responsibility for claims
Reveal openly method of inquiry for peer examination
Qualify claims, hedge language, invite reexamination
Assess harm impact from the account and its exposure
Share ownership, editing, and authority with the narrator

Retain (5)

Enduring
Traceable
Catalogued
Accessible
Co-owned

Plan for long-term care of the record
Show chain of custody from primary to secondary accounts
Attach appropriate metadata and context
Offer rationale and implementation plan for record access
Recognize shared rights in the record