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## Questioning

What makes us ask questions? Do we only want answers? Or do we want others to join in the conversation and help us find what we need? I believe that asking questions allows us to explore the unknown. Asking helps us to seek more expansively and find exactly what we're looking for by not sticking to just one response. Asking helps us to delve deeper into what may seem like the answer on the surface. How exactly do questions help us achieve this? The first step to knowing the answer to this is asking the actual question you want answered.

Who should we ask when we want concrete answers to our questions? This question is one that usually takes a while to figure out. I have never really gotten a totally complete and correct answer to a question when I choose to ask the first person who comes to mind, which in most cases ends up being the internet. It takes quite a lot of thinking and consideration before we can finally decide who would be worth our time and intellect to provide these answers we seek. Citing the podcast, *Serial: The Alibi*, which I listened to for the sake of this journal, the question of who needs to be asked to get answers comes into play. The presenter was on the case of Adnan for quite a while. Adnan was convicted for murder and was put in prison following his conviction. Following protocol, the police questioned a handful of people about Adnan's whereabouts during the time of murder. Adnan was also questioned, but he was not

able to provide a workable alibi for himself. At the end, the only testimony which was in any way helpful to the case, was the very one which was used against Adnan. I personally believe that Adnan is innocent and if the police questioned the right people, Adnan would not be found guilty.

The people who you ask indeed play a major role in the questioning process, so it is quite important to pay close attention to this aspect before you begin questioning. Usually, if you expect to get a direct answer you just go for it and ask whatever it is that bothers you. On the contrary, when you have intentions of digging deeper into the subject matter, you may not want to start by asking someone who would lead you to a dead end. You also don't want to ask them questions that would immediately draw absolute conclusions and make you close your books. In other words you always want to ask open ended questions.