Semi-structured Interview Questions for Experiencing Participants (Scholars/Life-long Learners)

1. Describe the things you enjoy doing with technology and the web each week.
This is a conversational start in order to put the interviewees at their ease. We are trying to get a sense of their overall digital literacy so that we can set their information seeking behaviors within a broader context. Do they socialize online? (See probe.) Do they 'contribute' online in the form of pictures, video, blogs, etc.?

> [PROBES: How important is the web for your social life, do you use it to keep in touch with your friends? What gadgets/devices/things do you use the most, is there anything you couldn't live without'? How much time on average do you spend online each week? Is there anything that bothers you about being online?]

2. Think of the ways you have used technology and the web for your professional work. Describe a typical week.

> [PROBES: How do you keep track of things? What systems for learning online do you have? Can you give us any examples of when you've asked your colleagues for help on your work online? What kind of online resources have you found that help you with your work? How did you find them? What other gadgets or devices do you use for your work?]

3. Think about the next stage of your career. Tell me what you think this will be like.

> [PROBES: How do you think you will use technology in the next part of your career? If you think you will need to adapt the way you use technology, what sort of changes do you think you'll make?]

4. Think of a time when you had a situation where you needed answers or solutions and you did a quick search and made do with it. You knew there were other sources but you decided not to use them. Please include sources such as friends, family, colleagues, mentors, etc. *Prompt for both academic and informal (domestic, personal…) examples.*

> [PROBES: Did you simply take the first answer/solution you were able to find? What was the situation? What sources did you use? What led you to use them...and not others? Did they help? How? What sources did you decide not to use? What led to this/these decision/s? What did source A give you that you thought source B could not? Are there situations where source B would 'be a better choice for you? How did you decide when it was time to stop looking? How did you assess what was good enough?]

5. Have there been times when you were advised to use a library or virtual learning environment (or learning platform), and used other source(s) instead?

> [PROBE: What made you decide not to use what you were advised to use?]

6. If you had a magic wand, what would your ideal way of getting information be? How would you go about using the systems and services? When? Where? How?

7. What comments or questions do you have for me? Is there anything you would like me to explain? What would you like to tell me that you've thought about during this interview?