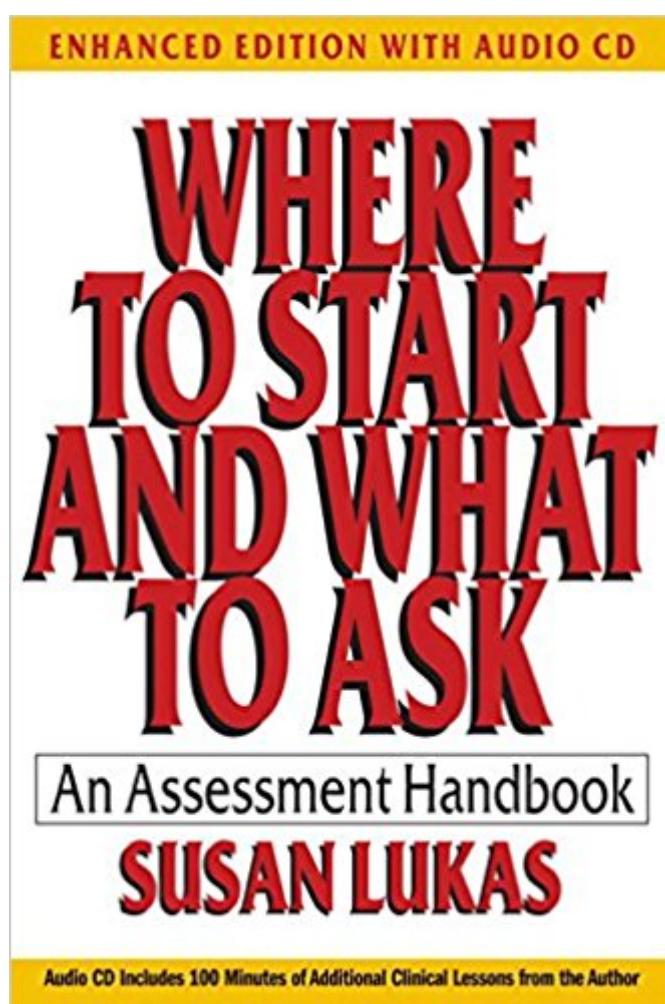


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# Where To Start And What To Ask: An Assessment Handbook (Enhanced Edition With Audio CD) (Norton Series On Interpersonal Neurobiology)





## Synopsis

An enhanced edition of the best-selling guide to clinical assessment. A life raft for students, neophyte clinicians, and their supervisors, this popular guidebook is as relevant today as it was when it first appeared nearly twenty years ago. It offers all the necessary tools for formulating a thorough client assessment. The enhanced edition is packaged together with a companion CD filled with lessons and exercises on the clinical interview. Sit back, relax, and think along with Susan Lukas about the many questions that you need to ask about yourself and your client before, during, and after the interview. Doing so will not only improve your clinical skills but also increase your confidence and self-awareness as a practitioner. Praise for *Where to Start and What to Ask*:

Lukas has performed an excellent service in writing this book. The way she handles the material makes ideas immediately accessible. An experienced professional, she has clearly not forgotten what the beginnings were like. . . . This book creates a sense of space and time for thinking and learning, for collecting, mulling over and drawing conclusions from what is observed. . . . Lukas does a wonderful job of presenting many different types of assessment procedures and what should be addressed during an assessment. . . . Straightforward and easy to read and understand. . . .

*Journal of Analytic Social Work* . Lukas does a wonderful job of presenting many different types of assessment procedures and what should be addressed during an assessment. . . .

*Journal of Family Psychotherapy*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A fine guide to clinical assessment certain to be as important today as it was when it first

appeared nearly twenty years ago. - Midwest Book Review  
Lukas writes clearly and concisely, offering quick yet interesting insights. She helps readers understand why assessment is important, then provides skills to improve one's interviewing skills. . . . [A] useful reference for any mental health practitioner. - PsychCentral

Susan Lukas, MSW, LCSW, received her degree in social work from Hunter College and practiced in New York City and in Nyack, New York. She died in 2008.

This was a required text for a counseling residency program. Unfortunately, we were notified rather late as to this text being required reading. What a help it would have been to have this compassionate, wise and humane guide prior to seeing clients! I have used Morrison's "The First Interview" as a standard; Lukas successfully takes the clinical content and weaves a cogent, structured and narrative means of addressing the first interview without the clinical edge inherent in Morrison. Lukas also includes sections on children and couples. This is a wonderful resource for those entering the counseling profession.

I did not get the CD

This book is a quick read that clearly outlines exactly what the title says, where to start and what to ask. Questions to assess for suicidality, homicidality and abuse are provided. Intake interviews and the specific nuances involved are written about as well as a comprehensive set of questions to ask during an intake interview. There is a set of developmental and medical questions that really help to cover all the milestones. Some of the questions are quite detailed, but you can easily pick and choose what you want to utilize or leave out. I used many of the questions when developing my own intake interview questionnaire. Working with children, adults, couples and families are addressed as well as questions to ask during an initial intake interview for them. Pitfalls to look out for are given. This is a highly applicable book for those in the mental health or social work field.

Good

This book is great. It's short, and to the point. No boring rambling on and on for pages and pages. It tells you what you need to know and in a really easy to understand way. This is the first book I've wanted to keep for reference once I graduate and move into working in the field. I would highly

recommend this book. I also find that this book is very true to what I've learned from working in the social work field doing assessments. This is a very informative and enjoyable book.

Pretty good book, helps with assessment and intakes, great for counseling stuents

As a graduate student studying social work with a mental health emphasis, I find this book really accessible and helpful. Figuring out how to conduct interviews with clients can be daunting, and this book provides numerous approaches for different situations: initial interviews with adults, children, families, couples, etc. It also provides information about assessing for physical and sexual abuse, substance abuse, and potential violence. I will definitely keep my copy handy as I begin to work in the real world after graduation.

Anyone who works in the field of psychology should read this book in order to hone his/her interview skills. Step-by-step Ms. Lukas explains how to conduct a psychological interview for individuals, couples, families, and children. After reading this book, there will be no awkward silences when you interview patients because you will always know what to say.

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