

Teacher Interview Questions

- 1) Tell me about yourself.
- 2) Why did you decide to be a teacher?
- 3) What is your greatest strength/weakness?
- 4) Tell me about the most influential teacher you have had.
- 5) What was your biggest challenge in student teaching? How did you overcome it?
- 6) Why are you interested in our district?
- 7) How do you set the rules of your classroom?
- 8) What are your best sources for new teaching ideas?
- 9) Tell me about your involvement with extracurricular activities.
- 10) Name a book, concept, experience or person who has influenced your professional development.
- 11) How do you get to know the students in your classroom?
- 12) What techniques do you use to check for understanding during a lesson? What do you do for students who don't 'get it' the first time?
- 13) How would you take into account the local economy in the lessons you plan?
- 14) Why do you want to teach in our district?
- 15) Name 2 ways to motivate students.
- 16) How do you use technology in the classroom?
- 17) What do you enjoy most/least about working with kids?
- 18) How do you handle discipline problems? What is the toughest aspect of discipline?
- 19) Define cooperative learning and give an example of how you have used it.
- 20) How do you teach students with different ability levels in the same classroom?
- 21) What do you feel are the most important things students should learn in your classroom (at your grade level, subject area)?
- 22) What are your plans for professional growth?
- 23) How do you create your lesson plans?
- 24) How do you involve parents in the learning process?
- 25) Would you rather teach the slow learner or the advanced learner?
- 26) What are the three most important strengths you possess that make you a successful teacher?
- 27) What do you expect from your supervisor? What qualities would you like to have in your principal?
- 28) What issues in education are of greatest concern to you, and why?
- 29) What are your short and long term goals?
- 30) What else would you like me to know about you?
- 31) What questions do you have for me?

Questions to ask the Interviewer

DO ask thoughtful questions that show you have done your research and are genuinely interested in the position.

DON'T ask about salary or benefits until you have been offered a position.

- 1) What opportunities do you offer for professional development?
- 2) What is the median age of teachers? Turnover rate?
- 3) Are there opportunities for involvement in extracurricular activities?
- 4) How would my performance be evaluated?
- 5) What kind of new teacher orientation is offered?
- 6) What qualities are you looking for in new teachers?
- 7) What characteristics does a successful teacher at your school have?
- 8) What are the next steps in the application/interview process?**

Interview Tips

DO dress professionally, even though you won't always dress up to teach, be sure to present yourself in a professional manner to make a good first impression.

DO practice your answers in advance, pair up with a friend and interview each other, or schedule a mock interview. This will help you be more confident and articulate in the actual interview.

DO your research. Learn all you can about the district to demonstrate your interest in the position.

DO bring copies of your resume. Even if they already should have one, it always helps to be prepared.

DO send a thank you letter or note within 48 hours.

DO try to relax and smile! Being nervous will just make it harder to focus, let your personality shine through.

The following websites contain further questions and tips as you prepare:

http://teachers4america.net/tommy_teacher/

<http://www.uwec.edu/Career/Students/jobsearch/teachers/TeacherCandidateInterview.htm>

<http://www.bc.edu/offices/careers/skills/interview/questionsasked/>