



Sample Interview Questions

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Visiting colleges and participating in college interviews can be both informative and fun. The keys to a successful visit are preparation and enthusiasm. As someone who has conducted interviews for ten years, I can attest to the value of an interview for both the institution and the student. In fact, the best interviews occur when there is an even exchange of information between the admissions counselor and the student.

The following questions are typical of college interview questions. Do not worry—you will not be asked all of them! However, be prepared to answer any questions of this nature. When answering the questions, be yourself and answer them to the best of your ability. As your participation is crucial, a little practice in advance would not be a waste of your time.

In a separate article of Talbot's Student Planning Book you will find sample questions for you to ask the college admissions representative with whom you meet. Hopefully, these questions will help you evaluate the colleges that interest you. Ask these and any other questions you have, and feel comfortable to take notes. Use this information to help you compare schools upon the completion of your visits. Most importantly, remember that the interview is to assist you in making one of the most exciting decisions of your life—enjoy the process!

- Tell me a little about yourself.
- What about yourself do you want our admissions team to remember most?
- Describe a typical day in your life.
- Who was your favorite high school teacher, and why?
- If you could change one thing about your high school to make it better, what would you change?
- What is the most recent book you have read?
- What attracts you to our institution?
- Which characteristics of a college are most important to you?
- What have you done in your school or community that you are most proud of?
- How have you been recognized for your accomplishments?
- During your free time, what are you most likely to do?
- When are you at your best? Your worst?
- If you could do high school over, what would you do differently? The same?
- How do you see yourself 10 years from now?
- What ways do you have of earning money for college?
- What was your best job, vacation, or class, ever?
- Are you interested in a specific area of study and how have you developed that interest? How do you plan to develop that interest in college?
- What have you done in your life that has required a great deal of patience and persistence and how did you handle that situation?
- Do you have any definite plans/goals for your future and how do we fit in with those plans?
- What aspect of college life do you think will have the most influence on a student?
- Whom do you respect in your community and why?