

# ‘Mock’ interviews

*Copy-and-paste your college / course here:*

*For Year 11 students preparing for college interviews in England, it's essential to anticipate common interview questions that allow you to showcase your strengths, interests, and readiness for further education. Here are five of the most important questions you are likely to encounter, along with tips on what interviewers are looking for in their responses . . .*



**Provide real-time  
coaching & feedback**



**Reduce learner anxiety  
and develop confidence**

# 1. Why do you want to study this course?

**What they're looking for:** Interviewers want to see a genuine interest and motivation for the course. They're assessing whether you have done some research into the subject and understand the course content.

**Preparation tip:** Talk about specific subjects or topics you enjoy and how the course aligns with your goals or aspirations. Mentioning any related experiences or projects can make your answer even stronger.

*My answers:*

## 2. What are your career aspirations?

**What they're looking for:** Colleges want to know if you have thought about your future goals and how this course will help you achieve these. Even if you're unsure, you should show a proactive attitude towards exploring your options.

**Preparation tip:** If you have a clear career path in mind, you should explain how the course supports that. If you're unsure, you can mention a few fields of interest and how the course provides flexibility for future decisions.

*My answers:*

### 3. What are your strengths and weaknesses?

**What they're looking for:** This question tests self-awareness. Interviewers want to see that you understand your own strengths and can acknowledge areas for growth. They're also interested in how you work to overcome challenges.

**Preparation tip:** You should focus on one or two strengths relevant to the course (e.g., strong in sciences, good time management). For weaknesses, you should pick something manageable and describe the steps you're taking to improve it.

*My answers:*

## 4. How do you handle challenges or setbacks in your studies?

**What they're looking for:** This assesses resilience and problem-solving skills, which are important in independent study settings. Colleges look for students who can stay motivated, seek help when needed, and learn from difficult experiences.

**Preparation tip:** You should share an example of a challenge you faced (like a difficult topic or a lower-than-expected grade) and describe how you overcame it, perhaps by seeking help from teachers, improving study habits, or persevering.

*My answers:*

## 5. What do you enjoy doing outside of school?

**What they're looking for:** This question explores your interests and helps interviewers see you as well-rounded individuals. Colleges look for students with positive hobbies or extracurricular activities that contribute to personal growth and time management.

**Preparation tip:** You should mention any hobbies, clubs, sports, or volunteer work you're involved in, highlighting any skills or values these activities help develop, such as teamwork, discipline, or creativity.

*My answers:*

*Further notes:*

# Prompt (copy&paste)



- You will act as an expert Interview Coach; please stay in character at all times
- I am a Year 11 student in England preparing for my college interview
- After asking me which college I am thinking of attending and also which courses I am thinking of studying, you will ask me 5 questions
- The 5 questions are:
  1. Why do you want to study this course?
  2. What are your career aspirations?
  3. What are your strengths and weaknesses?
  4. How do you handle challenges or setbacks in your studies?
  5. What do you enjoy doing outside of school?
- Please ask each question separately and wait for my reply
- You may help me with that question by asking further prompts if you feel my answer is too brief
- Please provide short and simple feedback using bullet points on each question in order for me to further improve my answers
- All communication between us must be in simple English with UK English spelling and grammar