

Mock Interview Questions

- 1. Please briefly share with me your educational background, and why you want to be a teacher in my building.**

Listen for:

Good training program, loves kids, knows something about district and/or school, and wants to make a difference.

- 2. What teaching techniques have you found to be effective for you in your classroom?**

Listen for:

Active student involvement, clear directions, clear expectations, use of flexible grouping including cooperative learning, and various modalities.

- 3. What are the most important ways a teacher can help his or her students?**

Listen for:

To be a good listener, make learning fun and relevant, be understanding, be a good communicator, demonstrate I care, and support my students.

- 4. Briefly describe your plan of action for teaching a lesson.**

Listen for:

Good planning, lesson flows from easy to more difficult, balance of lecture and active student involvement, assessment to measure student learning.

- 5. How do you discipline your students?**

Listen for:

A form of two-way communication, have clear expectations, move from simple to complex interventions, focus and give positive recognition to students who are on-task, be proactive, and communicate with parents.

- 6. What is your approach to teaching writing, both the mechanics and creative aspect?**

Listen for:

Focus on Six Writing Traits and/or related program.

- 7. What are your strengths in working with students.**

Listen for:

Ability to establish rapport with students, care about students, showing students respect, being a good listener, being a good role model, and providing them with daily success on planned learning activities.

8. What expectations do you have for your students?

Listen for:

To respect themselves, their classmates, and staff members. To try their best, ask questions when they need help, to be organized, complete and turn in their work. To be responsible citizens.

9. What do you consider your three strengths as a teacher?

Listen for:

Relate very well with people, know I can teach all students, and know I can learn from my mistakes. Know how to make learning exciting

10. How would you challenge special need and advanced students in your classroom?

Listen for:

Assess skill levels of all students, provide options in assignments, utilize para-professionals and technology when possible, and involve students in meaningful real-life learning experiences.

11. What does being a professional mean to you?

Listen for:

Life-long learner, team player, good communicator, understanding my role as at each, care about my students, parents, and colleagues. I will model appropriate behaviors for my students.

12. What is the purpose of homework and your philosophy about assigned homework?

Listen for:

Homework should relate to classroom learning, it should provide refinement of taught skills, should be considered meaningful, and monitored by the teacher. Considered independent practice in my lesson plan.

13. How do you utilize higher level thinking skills to enhance planned learning activities?

Listen for:

After providing students with basic information and skills, high level thinking skills are facilitated by selecting key verbs in my questions. Examples are I go from recall to compare to predict type questions. I also use thinking skills to apply to real-life experiences and situations.

14. Describe your teaching style.

Listen for:

Student centered, provide for student learning styles by using different modalities of instruction. I am organized, set high student expectations, and model good teaching attributes.

15. What do you know about educational reform in the state of Washington?

Listen for:

Can identify four state goals, assessment of student learning, and support legislative funding to train and/or retrain teachers as needed.

16. What is your approach to teaching reading at _____ level?

Listen for:

Applicant identifies role at level with some specific information on how they would teach reading to their assigned students regardless of age.

17. What is the purpose of assessing student learning and how do you go about the process?

Listen for:

The purpose is to identify what students know and how they can apply those skills in the classroom and in real-life situations. I use it so I can plan more meaningful lessons which are built upon student knowledge.

18. What responsibilities will your students have for their learning?

Listen for:

They need to be on time with needed supplies and materials. They need to listen to and follow my instructions. They need to respect themselves, fellow classmates, and adults in our school setting. To work hard.

Interview Practice and Feedback

Body Language:

Eye Contact _____

Posture _____

Voice _____

Mannerisms _____

Responses:

Organization and clarity of thought _____

Examples given when appropriate _____

Responding to question asked _____

Demonstration of knowledge _____

Pace and timing _____

Attitudes and Characteristics Noted:

Sense of humor _____

Flexibility and tolerance _____

Passion for mission and sense of commitment _____

Listening skills _____

Poise and maturity _____

Common sense and good judgement _____

Confidence _____

Enthusiasm and energy level _____

Balanced perspective _____

Willingness to continue to learn _____

Leadership potential _____

Sensitivity _____

Positive attitude and approach _____

Team player _____