

Steps to a Great Interview

Don't Panic! Lots of people freak out because they think interviews are scary. It's natural to be a little nervous, but if you're prepared you will do a better job. Here are some tips you can use to have a first class interview.

1. Be on time, or early, and dressed appropriately. You want to make a good impression.
2. Make eye contact with the interviewers.
3. Sit up straight. Don't talk with your hand over your mouth or chew gum.
4. Speak clearly. Avoid using words such as "yup", "nope", "um" or "huh?"
5. Be confident in yourself and smile. Show you are interested.
6. Be relaxed and try to leave your nervous habits at home (i.e., don't fidget, twirl hair, tap feet, etc.)
7. Most questions will be based on your 4-H experiences, so you will know the answers. Review your ME Form before coming.
8. If you are asked a question you don't understand, ask them to rephrase or repeat the question, or just say "I don't understand."
9. Be honest when responding to questions. If you've never thought about the question before, it's ok to say that.
10. Review the sample questions to be better prepared. Practice your answers with a parent, guardian, leader, friend, or teacher.

Sample Questions for ME Interview:

- Why did you choose the projects you have during the years you have been in 4-H?
- What are some of the most important things you've learned through your 4-H projects? What skills have you learned or improved?
- What do you think is the most valuable thing about individual projects?
- How have you been able to help others with what you have learned in your projects?
- How have your projects fit into your family situations?
- How have your projects prepared you for the future?
- What have you learned about costs of things (articles, goods, services) through your projects? Has 4-H helped you manage your resources? How?
- Of what importance is record keeping to you?
- What do awards and ribbons mean to you?
- How valuable do you think group activities have been to your club?
- What leadership have you been able to give group activities in your club?
- What work responsibilities do you share at home? If you work away from home, what do you do? How do you spend your leisure time – hobbies, etc.?
- What are the most valuable skills you've learned through club involvement or through 4-H?
- What role do you think the members should play in making decisions about your 4-H club?
- How do you think your 4-H projects and activities will influence your choice of career?
- What is the role of the family in 4-H?
- Name some qualities you might look for in a 4-H member that would tell you they might make a good youth leader.
- Are you a youth leader this year? What do you do as a youth leader? Do you plan to be an active member of the Youth Leaders Association this year? Why or why not? How will you be involved?
- What do you see as the purposes of the Youth Leaders Association?
- What are your responsibilities as an older member to your club, your community, your country, and your world?
- What do you think are the major duties and responsibilities of a good citizen?
- How can you get involved in political processes?
- How do you think 4-H prepares us to be good citizens?
- Pretend you are a spokesperson for 4-H. How would you convince young people and their parents to join 4-H?
- Say a foreign exchange student came to your school, and they know nothing about 4-H. What would you tell them about it?
- In addition to 4-H, are you active in any other community organizations?
- What extra curricular activities are you involved in?
- What could you do to improve the community you live in?
- Has 4-H helped you learn more about your community? How?
- What are some things your club could do to help improve your community?