

# Common High School Job Interview Questions

## 1. Tell me about yourself.

Make this brief, but meaningful. Talk about yourself, especially very positive traits. Don't make things up, but if you love talking with people say you are outgoing, if you are good with computers, mention that.

## 2. Why did you apply for our company?

Now is the time to let your research of the company shine. Referencing the company's Mission Statement or Company Values is a huge bonus. For example, "McDonald's brand mission is to be our customers' favorite place and way to eat." So you could say, I know your mission is to be your customer's favorite place to eat, and I have always enjoyed your food, and wanted to help contribute to that with other customers. In addition, one of your company's values is "We are committed to our people. We provide opportunity, nurture talent, develop leaders and reward achievement." And I would like to be a part of a company that will help grow my leadership skills.

## 3. Do you have any work experience?

Don't say "No". You have done something. It is ok to say, "I have been babysitting for 3 years, and it has really helped me learn about responsibility." I help tutor in our after school program, and it has helped me learn patience and how to explain things clearly. Talk about community service here and how it has helped you grow.

## 4. What are your favorite classes/subjects?

Be honest, but stick to an academic class (Unless it is a sporting goods store, or something that requires physical or artistic ability, in which case you might want to mention PE or art). AVID is another good class to mention, you can discuss the fact that it supports you in other classes and is helping to develop your leadership skills.

## 5. What are your career goals?

Be honest! What do you want to do for a living? But also tie this back to the immediate. I want to go to the University of \_\_\_ and be a doctor eventually. But right now I am looking for a solid job that can help me gain job experience and develop my leadership skills.

## 6. Do you like your high school?

Yes! Yes, you do like your high school. If you bad-mouth your school here, the interviewer will think that you will eventually bad mouth the company/job. Talk about how you are involved in the school, favorite teachers, school atmosphere/spirit.

## 7. Are you involved in any extracurricular activities?

This is the place to talk about sports you play, and clubs you are involved in. Really sell any leadership roles you have taken on (when appropriate), JV captain, school treasurer, Club secretary

**8. Why are you looking for a job?**

Tie this to a noble goal. Saving for college is a terrific answer. You really want to start gaining some job experience.

**9. Are you okay working nights and weekends?**

Be honest, but you don't want to cut them off from too many days where you can work. If you have sports after school, let them know when you can start. If you have regular commitments let them know about availability. But realize if you say you are too unavailable that they likely won't bother hiring you.

**10. If your teachers were here, what would they say about you?**

Make sure it is positive things they would say. Again avoid painting yourself in a negative light. Don't say you are always late, talking, joking around. Say things like hardworking, kind, etc.

**11. Are you planning on going to college after you graduate?**

Be honest about future plans.

**12. Do you know what you want to study?**

If you know exactly what you want to do, go ahead and let them know. It is ok to if you don't know exactly what you want to do, but try to give a general sense. "I really like animals, so I might find a major related to that." "I was thinking about something in business, but don't know exactly what." Try not to say, I have no idea. This might make your goals seem flakey or that you have not put any thought into it. Remember, telling them what you are thinking about doing, does not obligate you to actually doing it for the rest of your life.

**13. How comfortable are you doing X task? (answering phones, talking to customers, etc.)**

Try not to say, you don't like to do X task. If it is something you have never done (or secretly don't enjoy doing) say you don't have much experience with that task, or you are anxious to learn more about doing that.

**14. Do you have any questions for me (us)?**

Make sure to ask some type of a follow up question. Some of the more follow up questions at the end are:

1. How would you describe the responsibilities of the position?
2. How would you describe a typical week/day in this position?
3. What is the company's management style?
4. What are the prospects for growth and advancement?
5. Would you like a list of references?
6. If I am extended a job offer, how soon would you like me to start?
7. What else can I tell you about my qualifications?
8. When can I expect to hear from you?