

# Sample Questions for Education Interviews

Web Source: <http://www.tcnj.edu/~career/eid/interview.html>

These questions are particular to those applying for teaching positions.

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## About the Candidate

- Why do you want to teach?
  - What are your professional goals?
  - Tell me about yourself, and why I should hire you?
  - What educational experiences was your most memorable and why?
  - What 3 words best describe you?
  - Describe an outside interest or hobby and how it relates to your educational goals.
  - When you have an important decision to make, how do you make it?
  - Describe a rigorous course you have taken, and what you learned about yourself.
  - Identify a recent experience that you thought needed to be improved. How did you go about it? Were you successful? Why or why not?
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## Teaching Style

- What model do you use in developing a lesson?
- What happens during the first five minutes and the last five minutes of a good lesson?
- Describe what I would see during one of your best lessons?
- How would you use technology to assist you in teaching students? How would your students use technology in your classroom?
- What is your strength as a teacher and give a specific example of how you have demonstrated it in the classroom.
- Give me an example of how you have used differentiated instruction in the classroom.
- What is your definition of character education and how would you incorporate it into your teaching?
- What are three strategies, other than traditional testing, that you would use to assess students' learning?
- What strategies would you use to meet the needs of the many different learners you have in your class?
- What do you think teachers require to be more effective?

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## **Students & Classroom Management**

- What is your classroom management philosophy?
- Describe some classroom management strategies you use to run a smooth classroom.
- How would you handle a student who frequently disrupts class?
- How do you get a feel for what students are thinking?
- Describe some ways you gain an understanding of what your students have learned, i.e. assessment strategies?
- What would you do for the (insert your discipline) student who has already mastered a particular unit of study in your class?

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## **Elementary Education Candidates**

- Describe a typical reading lesson for grade X.
- Describe a typical writing lesson for grade X.
- How do you manage the behavior of 22+ elementary school children?
- Describe your philosophy and approach to reading/language arts instruction.
- What does an exemplary mathematics classroom look like?
- What is "inquiry-based" science?

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## **Other Questions**

- What would you say to your students on the first day of school?
- How do you think you could contribute to the school community?
- Describe how you would handle difficult parents.
- Describe your greatest challenge in your student teaching.
- Briefly summarize either the national standards or NJCCCS in your content area.
- What do you know about inclusion