

Interview practice sheet for students

We asked managers to think of a real-life question they would ask/have asked in an interview and what they would expect to hear in a response.

Responses can be found at the end, after the questions.

Feel free to try answering some of the questions to help prepare you for future interviews.

You may wish to use the STARR technique outlined below when thinking about how to formulate your answer as it helps create a well-thought out and well-rounded response.

Interview tip – the STARR interview technique		
S	Situation	Describe a situation or problem that you have
T	Task	Describe the task that the situation required and why it was important
A	Action	Describe the action(s) you took, obstacles that you had to overcome
R	Result	Highlight outcomes achieved and how success was measured. Employers like
R	Reflect	Sometimes it is appropriate to say that you reflected on what happened and decided how you would tackle the problem next time.

Questions

Team working

1. What are the potential benefits and drawbacks to offering therapy in a school environment?

Managing conflict

2. Can you describe a time when you had to manage a challenging case or situation with a client or family, and how you handled it?
3. Tell us about a time when you experienced conflict within your team or with a colleague. How did you handle the situation, and what was the outcome?
4. How do you handle difficult families?

Clinical

5. How do you approach clinical decision making?
6. You arrive at school and realise the only resource you have remembered to bring is a flannel. Please think of 5 ways you could use a flannel in a SALT session
7. Why could aspirating on diet/fluid/foreign debris lead to Aspiration Pneumonia?
8. Please describe an evidence based clinical intervention you've used, or seen be used, in your student practice?

Personal motivation

9. Why do you want this job?
10. What led you to explore a career in Speech and Language Therapy?

Supervision

11. Tell us about your experiences of supervision

Problem solving

12. How might you prioritise a caseload in a busy mainstream school?
13. During your clinical experience to date, can you share an example of a challenging clinical situation and how you overcame this. Would you have done anything differently?

Values and attitude

14. Pre-Interview Task: Please write a brief summary (no more than one side of A4) of the actions and interventions that you believe would most effectively support adults with learning disabilities / autism and communication needs to take an active role in training design and delivery, as well as organisational governance
15. In the workplace if a colleague said something that you disagreed with how would you address this?

Safeguarding

16. You go on a home visit and are concerned about the way a mother is speaking to her child. What would you do?

Health, wellbeing and personal development

17. Working in an acute mental health setting can sometimes be emotionally challenging. Describe how you would manage your own mental health in these situations?
18. How might you protect your clinical time and emotional regulation during a busy term?

Time management

19. Can you give an example of a time when you had to negotiate and meet a number of deadlines in a short space of time. What strategies did you put into place?
20. Working in an SLT team requires good organisation skills in order to manage all of the demands on your time. How would you prioritise your daily tasks (e.g. completing notes, telephone calls, e-mails, reports, and organising and providing appointments)?

Preparation and knowledge about the post

21. What preparation have you done for this interview and for this job?

Equality, diversity & inclusion

22. What does anti-racism mean to you and how would you ensure these values are embedded in all parts of your work?

23. Can you provide an example of how you have (or will) promoted equity, diversity and belonging in the profession?