

Solomon Consulting Session Questions

1. How should freshmen be thinking about summer and their sophomore year?
 - a. Summer between freshman and sophomore year will be least important
 - b. Most important is the summer between junior and senior year
 - c. Second most is the one between sophomore and junior year
 - d. Solomon Consulting helps students learn what they love outside of the classroom (generally research with a college professor or internships or competitive summer programs)
 - e. Better if you are involved in all summers
2. Do UCs accept students with a D in any of the subjects?
 - a. Will be challenging based on the UC
 - b. For example, since UCLA is more competitive, will be much harder to get in with a D than a less competitive UC
3. Are H4 students allowed for FAFSA?
 - a. Unfortunately not
4. Is there a checklist for the college admissions process?
 - a. Solomon Consulting has their own checklist, not sure if there are any common ones out there
 - b. Start with the school list and mapping out strategies for early action and early decision
5. How will the pandemic affect college application/admission process for current seniors and Juniors?
 - a. Hard to say for juniors
 - b. Suspecting that for seniors it will be more competitive due to the high number of people who were deferred in the previous year
 - c. Back enough to normalcy, can tell once more regular decision comes back in
6. Is 7th grade too early to think about College?

- a. Not at all, Solomon Consulting starts working with some students beginning in 7th grade
 - b. Ideally, 8th grade is used because there is still a lot of time left
- 7. What classes/ internships are available for juniors in summer?
 - a. Solomon Consulting will figure out how they will position the student and then will fill out a detailed plan for activities and academics
 - b. Definitely use resources and connections you have for internships or research opportunities
- 8. What is the process to work on essays?
 - a. Solomon Consulting stays away from cliché essays
 - i. Ex. Let's say you want to be a doctor and study human biology (do not do the overly done "I want to help people" for why you want to become a doctor); find a novel way to convey your ideas
- 9. Is taking English 9 non honors compared to English 9 Honors a negative in the college admissions process if that child ends up taking English 10 H?
 - a. If it is between getting an A & B, take the lower-level course
 - b. Make sure you will not end up getting a B if you are going to take the more rigorous course
- 10. Follow up to #11. The child isn't keen on higher English learning but is interested in AP Euro, APUSH, AP Gov etc. Would this compensate for low-level coursework on English?
 - a. Similar answer to the previous question
- 11. When is a good time to get a college counselor?
 - a. As early as possible (8th to 9th grade)
 - b. Any time is a good time
 - c. Better to do what you can to be as competitive as possible
- 12. In 10th and 11th UC s give weightage for 4 AP courses...but if kid did more AP courses like 7 or 8 in 10th and 11th...in that case, which 4 course student need to list for weightage? 1) courses related to kids

major in college though it is less grade like 'b' or 2) courses not related to kids major in college in which kid scored 'a' grade

- a. Every school that recalculates the GPA is going to look at how many AP courses you have taken
- b. College will still look at courses not related to the student's major

13. My school offers 19 AP courses. How many should I take to be competitive?

- a. Depends on the student and how many AP courses you can handle at a time

14. Which number of AP courses do you consider a low number of AP courses?

- a. To be competitive, take at least 10
- b. If your school does not offer 10 AP courses, you will need to look into different options

15. Many Students were struggling due to this Virtual Learning especially AP courses, does Universities make any considerations for that? if a student shows down and with a better up graph in upcoming semesters/year would that be considered positively?

- a. Data is still coming in for how colleges are going to handle applications during the pandemic
- b. If it was a case where the virtual learning really affected the student, this would be mentioned somewhere in the application, possibly in the essay, etc.

16. Will H4 students be treated at par with citizens in terms of selection and admission process?

- a. More competitive coming as an international student
- b. Will be compared against students from where you're coming from
 - i. Ex. If you're coming from Italy, you'll be compared against students from other European countries

17. Also when H4 students reach 21 years they'll have changed the status to F1 as per the immigration policy, so will the student be charged international fee for the rest of the years?
 - a. Recorded webinar on their Youtube Channel informing about international students
18. Do activities done in summer before entering freshman year have any value or benefit?
 - a. No
19. What are the services offered by Solomon and cost?
 - a. Matches students up with proper counselor
 - b. Helping students do research, strategically plan, and more
 - c. Plans that are made are incredibly detailed
 - d. Work on personal statement, making school list, and supplemental essays for the respective schools
 - e. Costs generally start around \$10000—all inclusive
20. Is Solomon consulting offering services for H4 students? If yes, when should the student start the consultation with Solomon?
 - a. Works with international students
 - b. Works with students here who might not be citizens
 - c. Amanda had talked to a family in Croatia
21. Your thoughts on taking Community College courses during summer?
 - a. During the summer, show colleges that you are being productive and this is one way to do so
22. If the student takes accelerated Math program (Honors) and Chemistry of Earth Systems (Honors) for which they're eligible to calculate the weighted GPA and don't take up the AP European History offered in the High school, will it have a negative impact on the college application, because the honors selected are in alignment with college courses and AP European history is nowhere related to the Majors a student will be selecting for the college
 - a. Will double check with her team
 - b. Can email her to get a follow-up response

23. Are colleges moving to video applications and how common are interviews?
- a. Popped up a few years ago but has not heard too much about them
 - b. Interviews are more common than they used to be
 - i. Skype and Zoom are being used more than in-person interviews
24. Is it worth it to take an AP course that does not relate to our major?
- a. Yes, they want to see if a student can diversify themselves