

Interview Preparation Questions

Indianapolis Teaching Fellows, Enrollment 2026

Directions: Answer each of the following questions in the box provided under each question. When you are done, save the document as *lastname.firstname_InterviewPrepQuestions* and upload it to your application portal.

What ITF partner school did you identify as the school you are “interviewing” with for the purpose of this exercise?

Is the school a charter, traditional public (IPS), or innovation school? Is there anything else of note regarding the context of this school?

Directions: The following questions have been designed to prepare you for the school hiring process by helping you think through questions and themes that Fellows most often encounter in interviews with our partner schools. Answer each question thoroughly as you would in an interview setting.

Why do you want to become a teacher? Why a Center Township school?

Students in our school often come to school with more worries on their hearts and in their brains than just succeeding in school. We find that our students face challenges in and out of school. Do you think it is fair to expect the same results from students who have significant challenges in their home lives as we do from students who come from privileged backgrounds?

TIP: Questions like this give you an opportunity to demonstrate our Essential Trait: [Commitment to Excellent Outcomes](#). Learn more about our essential traits [here](#).

How will you make sure all students in your classroom, regardless of their backgrounds, receive the education they need and deserve?

TIP: Like the question above, this question gives you an opportunity to demonstrate our Essential Traits: [Commitment to Excellent Outcomes](#) and [Critical Thinking](#). Learn more about our essential traits [here](#).

How will your past experience help you find success as a teacher?

TIP: Even if you aren't directly asked about your past experience, make sure you draw clear connections between what you've done and how that has helped prepare you to be an excellent teacher. Most skills are transferable.

Imagine that you spent the majority of your weekend working on lesson plans that you feel really good about. You turn your plans into me (your supervisor) and I tell you that the plans need to be redone. How do you respond?

TIP: Most scenario questions can be successfully answered by thinking about our essential traits. Questions like this are a great opportunity to show an understanding of our Essential Trait: [Constant Learner](#). Learn more about our essential traits [here](#).



Describe a time when you worked on a project or task for a period of weeks or months and encountered an unforeseen obstacle. Describe the steps you took to overcome the challenge.

TIP: Answer questions that ask you to describe challenges you have faced in three parts

1. *Clearly define/describe the challenge*
2. *Explain the specific steps you took to overcome the challenge*
3. *Describe the outcome*

--

How will you measure your success as a teacher?

--

What does culture mean to you? What culture do you want to establish in your classroom? How will you create that culture?

--

Directions: Answer the following question only for the content area you plan to teach. (Elementary teachers should choose a question from 2-4 below to answer as you will be teaching all content areas.)

- Describe a unit that you think would be important and interesting for students to learn. What would be the objectives? How would you go about teaching it?

Questions 2-4 (ELEMENTARY/EARLY CHILDHOOD ONLY)

- What are the developmental needs and characteristics of children in this grade?
- In what ways have you used/will you use technology to enhance your teaching?
- What is your teaching style? What methods will you use?

(*Questions from Indeed site: <https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/interviewing/interview-questions-for-elementary-teacher>)

--

Directions: List three questions you would ask at the end of your interview.

TIP: Ask questions that aren't easily answered by looking at the website.

1.
2.
3.