College Admissions Interview Practice Questions

by Jodi Walder-Biesanz with input from many college admissions officers

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Tell me about your family.
3. What are your strengths and talents? What are your weaknesses?
4. Are there accomplishments you are particularly proud of, and why?
5. In what areas would you like to improve?
6. What do you like best and the least about high school?
7. Which courses have challenged you the most and why?
8. How do you respond to academic demands and pressure?
9. What has been your most stimulating intellectual experience?
10. What teacher has had the biggest influence on you?
11. What has been your most challenging leadership experience?
12. What has been your biggest disappointment in high school?
13. What is your favorite activity outside of school?
14. What activities do you plan to continue in college and why?
15. Which authors, books or articles have had a profound impact on you?
16. What issues concern you?
17. What do you want out of college?
18. Why are you interested in this college?
19. What do you plan to major in and why?
20. What do you want out of life?
21. If you could take a year off, what would you do and why?
22. Tell me about your work experience and community service experience.
23. How would your friends describe you?
24. What do you believe is the biggest challenge in the world today?
25. What are you doing this (or did you do last) summer?
26. What other colleges are you considering?
27. What person, living or dead, would you most like to meet? What would you discuss?
28. Describe the most difficult situation you've been in. How did you handle it?
29. How do you spend a typical day after school?
30. Have you ever thought about not going to college? What would you do instead?
31. On a day without any obligations, what would you do?
32. What's the biggest ethical dilemma you have faced? How did you resolve it?
33. If you had a million dollars and wanted to donate it to our school, what would you earmark it for?
34. What questions do you have for me?