

# Primary School Teaching Interview Questions And Answers Guide.



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# Primary School Teaching Job Interview Preparation Guide.

### Question # 1

Tell me what makes a good lesson?

#### Answer:-

While teaching assistants don't make the lessons, they do provide invaluable help to prepare them, and a successful candidate for an assistant teaching job is one interested in the role of a teacher and prepared to support them 100%.

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### Question # 2

Tell me what qualities do you have which would make you an effective teacher?

#### Answer:-

You may reflect on a teacher you liked at school, university, or have worked with in the classroom. Analyse what qualities made them successful, such as enthusiasm, pace, resilience, subject knowledge, a range of teaching methods, an ability to hold the attention of the class, empathy, and encouraging children to think rather than being told.

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### Question # 3

Tell me what are the challenges for teachers in handling the modern day students?

#### Answer:-

The role of teachers is becoming very challenging these days. Especially with both parents working and the time they spend with the children for their studies is drastically coming down. Also the expectations of the parents on their children both in studies and extra-curricular activities are very high. All this becomes a great challenge for the teachers in giving individual attention to each child rather than just delivering the lesson.

Also the improving technology and communications are giving children a great exposure to the happening around the world and tinge of innocence is completely missing. Children are able to get any sort of information in a click of mouse on the internet. Hence the teachers are facing a great challenge in handling students in the current day. Teachers need to really pull up their socks and improve their knowledge and not just rely on the text books.

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### Question # 4

Tell me what can you contribute to our institution if you are selected?

#### Answer:-

This is a kind of trap where the interviewers try to assess your over-confidence. One thing that has to be understood is that any development initiatives can be suggested only after understanding the systems better. As an outsider you do not know what the existing practices are. Hence your answer should impress them that you would like to get into the system and then accordingly contribute for the betterment of the institution.

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### Question # 5

Tell me what other activities you like to be involved in the school?

#### Answer:-

Think of your own interests and share opinions in different areas like coaching the students in sports, counseling the student on creating awareness on harassment and molestation, creating awareness on healthy food habits etc which can help the society as a whole.

Describe your relations with the principal and other teachers in the current job. A good interpersonal relation with the principal and teachers is very much necessary to fulfill the objectives of the institutions. There would be some differences of opinions which need to be sorted and handled with maturity. Illustrate the situations when you have shared happy moments both professionally and in personal life with your team.

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### Question # 6

Tell me how would I answer a question about handling behavior?

#### Answer:-



## Primary School Teaching Interview Questions And Answers

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This is a very unspecific question. So I would start out with your class wide behavior management plan. Talk about the details of that. This is a general ed, position and I am sure that this is one of the most important answers you will give. They want to make sure you can manage a classroom and they are looking for your behavior management plan. Mine is a positive approach based on Teaching With Love and Logic (great book if you haven't read it). So I would start out with my approach first - explaining Teaching With Love and Logic. Then I would give examples of a system I have run in the past.

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### Question # 7

Why do you want to be in teaching department?

**Answer:-**

This is an opportunity to talk about your previous experiences of working or volunteering with children and what you enjoyed and learned. Even if your experience is limited to babysitting or volunteering try and bring out pertinent information a positive way:

I volunteered in my local school and listened to the children there read. I enjoyed working one to one with the children, helping them with new words and found watching them gain confidence very satisfying.

I was a helper at a local Brownie group and enjoyed helping prepare the games and craft activities every week and helping the children carry out the planned tasks.

I have spent some time working at an after school club and had to supervise children of all different ages making sure everyone had age appropriate toys and games to play with, stepping in if things became rowdy and making sure everyone behaved and was safe.

This involved setting up the play equipment before the children arrived, giving them a drink and a snack and clearing and tidying the room afterwards. I particularly enjoyed interacting with the children and would love to work alongside the class teacher to help them learn.

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### Question # 8

Suppose I walked into your classroom what would I expect to see?

**Answer:-**

This type of question can take various guises:

Describe a successful lesson.

Would you say you make learning fun?

How do you engage the children?

All these questions are designed to see what type of teacher you are. You should try and answer using examples from previous experience and what you do day to day in your teaching.

The answer will change depending on which question you answer but there are ways you can include a lot of the information in each of them.

A model answer could be something like this:

"First and foremost I plan fun and engaging lessons for the children so they are keen to participate and learn. This is my number one strategy in dealing with behaviour issues because if they want to take part they will behave. So when you walk in you will see every child engaged in a learning activity which is relevant to the lesson and their individual needs. This is achieved through differentiation, with the likes of support or use of resources or even doing different tasks."

"An example of this was when I took the higher achievers out of the previous lesson and taught them a new skill that would allow them to push on in their levels. The next lesson each of the higher achievers had a group that they had to teach this new skill to, while I took the lower achievers and carried on with more examples of the previous learning they had done. Everyone was engaged and learning in this lesson which I was observed for and received a good to outstanding."

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### Question # 9

Explain us what are your greatest strengths?

**Answer:-**

This question will probably be asked. Now, if you researched the district/school and found out what they are looking for in a candidate, you will be able to focus your response on that information, keeping in mind it is important to tell the truth. With every response you must show your VALUE to the district. This will also give them an idea on how you view your talents and skills as a teacher. Perception is critical... you must be able to confidently discuss your skills using a convincing approach.

It is important the answer shows your hard/tangible skills. For example, classroom management, curriculum development, or technology integration. These skills will show the interviewer(s) what you can do on the job. Don't stop there, you will set yourself apart from the pack if you can back up your claims with actual stories. This will build credibility... it shows you really are good at what you are claiming. Tell them about what you have done to incorporate technology into the classroom and what was the result. The result part of the story sells value... and that produces job offers.

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### Question # 10

Tell me what do you think the role of a teaching assistant is?

What will your duties include as a teaching assistant?

**Answer:-**

Some of the duties of a TA are: Helping teachers prepare for lessons by, for example, putting out equipment before a lesson starts or photocopying papers; listening to children reading and reporting back to the teacher should any issues arise, and helping children who need extra help in literacy or numeracy. A teaching assistant is there to support a teacher in the classroom.

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### Question # 11

Explain me what are some of the trends, issues, and methodologies in education that relate to your specific curriculum area or grade level?

**Answer:-**

Research and be up to date with some of the current educational issues that relate to your subject or age level. Consider how they impact teaching and learning giving an example from your experience.

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### Question # 12

Tell me how do you use technology in driving the interest of the students?



### Answer:-

Use of technology is inevitable both to gain hands on knowledge using internet and using PPT's and video clippings for delivering the class room sessions.

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### Question # 13

Explain me what changes do you foresee in the next 5-6 years in the educational system in our country?

### Answer:-

With the advancements in the technology the exposure that children are getting today is enormous. Text books are not the single source of information anymore. Hence I feel that there would be major improvements in the course curriculum and also the process of assessment would change.

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### Question # 14

Tell me what is your career goal and where do you want to see yourself in the next 10 years?

### Answer:-

This question is to check on how aspiring the individual is rather than just being contented with the current position.

One can say something like - My career goal is to become the head of an educational institute. The experience gained till now gives me a confident feeling that I can achieve my goal in the next 10 years.

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### Question # 15

Explain me how do you implement an equal opportunities policy in your class?

### Answer:-

Not sure how I would handle it, but I would probably say that I would give both boys and girls opportunities to have different class jobs, choose partners different ways, and have a say in how the class is run as a whole. I like to tell my kids that our class is a community where we all get a say on things.

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### Question # 16

Explain me about your preschool teacher education (i.e. educational qualifications)?

### Answer:-

Any job in this world requires either a skill set or an academic degree or both. Ensure that you answer this question in a factual and concise manner. The answers that you provide may be referenced and checked; present accordingly.

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### Question # 17

Tell us what is your discipline philosophy?

### Answer:-

With teacher interview questions and answers like this it is a good idea to have a well organized statement about your approach to discipline.

Your interview answer will depend on your teaching style, the position (including age group) you are interviewing for and your past experience. Do some research about this school or district's approach to discipline so that you are on the same page with your answer. Provide a clear and concise statement and back it up with examples.

"The purpose of discipline is to facilitate learning and foster better relationships and respect between the students. It is also intended to help students become more self-directed, self-disciplined and accountable for their behavior. I have found that students respond poorly to forceful discipline but well to discipline that is helpful. My philosophy is to provide clear limits and rules that are communicated to the students so that they have a clear understanding of what is expected of them. The rules are discussed and agreed upon to encourage accountability from the students....."

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### Question # 18

Tell me why should we appoint you or what would we be missing out on if we decided not to appoint you?

### Answer:-

A related question is 'what are you bringing to the role of a teacher?'. You need to be able to put across your strong points during the interview, don't be modest. You might start with, 'As you can see from my application...' and then lead into a quick rundown of your qualifications and relevant experience. If you haven't already, present your strengths and skills and what you can do to enhance education in their setting

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### Question # 19

Explain me each and every child is special and gifted differently. How do you identify those hidden talents?

### Answer:-

Yes, the fact that each child is blessed differently and a teacher is the best person to identify the hidden talents and encourage them to pursue those special skills. Different classroom activities like essay writing, elocution, painting and role plays help in identifying children with special talents in writing, oratory, acting and artistic skills. Also the sports and cultural events bring out their leadership & team working skills.

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### Question # 20

Explain me the toughest situation you have faced in handling a student and how did you manage protecting the interest of the institution?



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### Answer:-

This kind of question tests the perseverance of a teacher to help his/her students to grow as a successful person and drive them with positive attitude on different aspects of life.

Narrate a situation where you had to handle a student with a consistent behavioral problem or disobedience of instructions. How you have counseled both the student and the parents to make the student realize the mistakes committed. Give necessary chance and support to put on the same track which rest of the students are travelling.

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### Question # 21

Tell me how good are you in time management and handle work pressure towards the end of the academic year?

### Answer:-

Managing and planning time is very important for a teacher to ensure completion of the course of the subject at stipulated time before the academic examinations. Knowing the curriculum at the start and deadlines for both the internal and external assessment, I plan the number of hours for each lesson and strictly execute it. In case of any unforeseen disturbance, the management of the institution always supports in conducting special classes with ultimate goal of completing the syllabus.

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### Question # 22

Explain me what do you think are your strengths and weaknesses? How would these have an influence on the pre-school?

### Answer:-

No human being is without their strengths and weaknesses. In your response, begin and end with your strengths. Do not overly emphasize your weaknesses, and mentioning one or two should suffice. If it is something that would possibly interfere with your work, explain how you compensate. Focus on your positive attributes and how they help you perform well.

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### Question # 23

Explain me how have you handled a situation where a student is consistently late to your class?

### Answer:-

This teacher interview question is designed to see how you handle a problem in your classroom. Your answer should highlight your ability to deal immediately with a potential issue in a calm and controlled manner.

Include details about questioning the student to find out the underlying cause of the problem, explaining the negative impact of his/her behavior to the student and coming to an agreed commitment to appropriate behavior in the future.

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### Question # 24

Explain me what is your approach in the parent-teacher meetings and how do you convey the performance of the student to the parents?

### Answer:-

The fact is that parents look forward to teachers as the ones who groom their children and help them attain success in their lives. Also the time parents are able to spend with their children is coming down day by day due to various reasons. This actually builds on the expectations on the institution and the teachers.

The parent-teacher meetings should not be just to let the parents know about the marks & grades the students gain. The emphasis should be made on the areas of strengths and improvements required and also guide the parents on understanding the interests of child while supporting him/her in realizing the dreams.

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### Question # 25

Tell me in your opinion what are the categories of children based on their level of intellectual capability and what strategies do you follow to create an enthusiasm in them?

### Answer:-

Yes, the performance of the students in the classroom as well as in the examinations help the teachers in assessing them. The categories would be bright, average and below average. The focus would be on average and below average students. Counsel the students during the monthly reviews and understand where they would need extra support and prepare a customized study plan for them. Conduct extra study hours if necessary for those students to clarify their doubts and help them gain confidence.

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### Question # 26

Explain us how do you handle classroom discipline?

### Answer:-

For obvious reasons everyone will have a different answer; it will depend on your teaching style, grade interviewing for, and past experiences. The interviewer will be looking to see if you have a plan, you know how to implement it, and if you think that discipline is an important part of the position. What I have found from coaching clients is they fail to provide a clear action plan that can be backed up with examples. Also it is important to find out what is the philosophy of the school or district, this will give you some additional information. A few things to bring up when answering this question is the following:

It is important to develop ground rules the first week of class, this allows the students to understand what is and isn't acceptable behavior.

These rules are discussed and agreed upon with the students, this makes the students accountability and responsible. You may want to touch on your philosophy of classroom discipline. This of course would depend on your style; you will have to be honest with yourself. But you may believe that you reduce negative behavior by offering the students an intellectually stimulating, organized, and respectful environment.

You will want to get an example of your plan; use a real situation to show your expertise in this very important area. Whether you use the red light/green light, time-outs, or removing the student from the classroom, it is important that you can back up why it is effective and use examples. You will want to explain why you feel the discipline action is effective and why you enjoy using it.

It is also important to indicate there are always two sides to every story, so if the action involves discipline of two students, you must listen to both sides. Indicate that you try to get the students to resolve their own disagreements, which may involve compromise. And end the discussion by asking them, "How will you handle the



## Primary School Teaching Interview Questions And Answers

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situation next time?"

Again, you must be honest when answering this question or any other question during the interview, but by organizing your thoughts and stories will make your response concise, truthful, and show your skills to the district.

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### Question # 27

Explain me how many years of experience do you possess in teaching and what are your competencies?

**Answer:-**

I possess X years of experience in teaching subjects like X, X, X and X.

My main competencies are in handling students with different intellectual capabilities and designing a customized model of teaching for each class. At the same time, I can enthuse the students towards the subject by giving them practical overview of the concepts.

And, I hold a track record of teaching students who have then always scored above 60% of marks.

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### Question # 28

Tell me what is your opinion about team work and share an example of a situation where you have outperformed as team member?

**Answer:-**

Team work is very important whatever might be the profession we choose, as one single person cannot do everything by himself / herself. Contribution of work, providing support to each other and coordinating among the staff members is a must in any of the activities in the institution.

Share examples of when you organized events or functions in the institution by proper planning and execution while working as team.

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### Question # 29

Tell me what are the advantages/disadvantages of working in a school of this type? . Why this job?

**Answer:-**

There really isn't an easy answer. Your best bet is to find out more about the school for which are you interviewing. Check out the website (if they have one). Try to talk to other teachers/parents from the school. Call the front office and ask if you can get info on the school (handbook, etc.). Just riding by the school can provide some info (maybe the school motto is posted, maybe a sign promoting an

upcoming event is posted). When you enter the school for the interview, be very aware of what is around you -- things hanging on the wall, etc. Then, use this info to structure your answer. Administrators love to see that you have done your homework (so to speak) and that you have taken the time and energy to know what their particular school is about. Even something as simple as explaining how a school's motto fits into your philosophy can do a lot.

One of the schools I used to teach at had their motto on a banner that hung over the front door, "Educating Everyone Takes Everyone." I used that during my interview to explain how I felt that teaching was a team effort which needed the cooperation of all the teachers, families, administrators, etc.

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### Question # 30

As you know good Communication skills are a must for a teacher. How do you comprehend this?

**Answer:-**

A good teacher must be a good communicator. Without good communication skills one cannot get the students attention however knowledgeable the person might be. Obviously what matters is the output or the delivery and no one would count on the time spent on preparation or the years of experience gained.

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### Question # 31

Basic Job Interview Questions:

**Answer:-**

\* First, tell us a little bit about yourself. (Almost every teacher interview begins this way.)

\* Describe your college experiences.

\* Tell us about your experiences working with students at this age level.

\* Describe your philosophy of teaching?

\* Why do you want to become a teacher?

\* List three of your strengths your strengths and explain each one.

\* Describe three of your weaknesses as a teacher.

\* In what ways do you encourage creativity in your classroom?

\* Tell us about a lesson in which you've used differentiated instruction.

\* How do you teach kids to utilize higher-order thinking skills in your classroom?

\* What do you do to prepare your students for state or standardized tests?

\* Do you make learning fun for students? How?

\* If I walked into your classroom on a typical afternoon, what would I see going on?

\* How do you measure student performance in your classroom?

\* Describe a successful lesson. Tell why it was successful.

\* What would you do if a student wasn't handing her homework on a regular basis?

\* How much homework do you give?

\* Besides lecture, what methods of teaching do you use?

\* Tell us about your discipline philosophy.

\* What are your classroom rules? How do you make students familiar with the rules?

\* What daily or weekly routines would be incorporated in your teaching?

\* One student hits another student. What do you do?

\* A student throws a pencil across the room. What do you do?

\* Explain what you would do if a student was swearing in your class?

\* What would you do if a student was complaining about an assignment you've given?



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### Question # 32

School experience based Job Interview Questions:

#### Answer:-

- \* What classroom experience do you have?
- \* What have you learned from your experience in schools and/or what skills do you bring from your previous employment?
- \* Give an example of a good/bad lesson you observed during a school visit or have taught. Why was it good/bad?
- \* Tell us about a time when you helped a child in the classroom. Were you effective and, if so, why do you think this was?
- \* What contributions could you make outside your subject area/age range?
- \* How do you view your own school experience?
- \* Who was your favourite teacher and why?

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### Question # 33

Safeguarding Job Interview Questions:

#### Answer:-

- \* What is a teacher's responsibility in keeping children safe?
- \* How would you contribute to making this school a safe environment for the children? Can you give some examples of this from your experience?
- \* Give an example of when you have had a safeguarding issue in school and tell us how you dealt with it.
- \* How would you respond if a child disclosed...?

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### Question # 34

Professional Primary School Teaching Job Interview Questions:

#### Answer:-

- \* What are some of the most important things you learned when student teaching?
- \* What was the most satisfying moment throughout your student teaching?
- \* What was the most frustrating thing about student teaching?
- \* Describe one college course that taught you the most about being a good teacher.
- \* Who influenced you to become a teacher?
- \* Describe the biggest challenge you've ever had to face.
- \* What books are you currently reading?
- \* A student confides in you and tells you that his parent abuses him. He asks you not to tell anyone. What do you do?
- \* What is your definition of a life-long learner? How can you promote life-long learning in your classroom?
- \* Would you be willing to help out with extra-curricular activities? Which ones?
- \* Have you ever been a substitute teacher in this school district?
- \* What do you look for in a principal?
- \* How do you communicate with administrators?
- \* Would you like to be part of our new teacher mentor program?
- \* What kinds of inservices would you be eager to attend?
- \* List five adjectives that accurately describe yourself.
- \* What professional teaching organizations do you belong to?
- \* Have you ever received an award for anything in your lifetime? Describe.
- \* Describe the differences between a good teacher and a great teacher?
- \* What were you like as a student?
- \* If you teach a lesson and your students don't seem to be "getting it," what do you do?
- \* How do you provide support for students who are not performing as well as they should?
- \* What can you do to meet the needs of students who do not speak English?
- \* In what ways can you teach students to be accepting of one-another?
- \* How would you teach conflict resolution to your students?

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### Question # 35

Education and equal opportunities based Job Interview Questions:

#### Answer:-

- \* How do children learn?
- \* How would you deal with discrimination issues? Give an example of when you have done this.
- \* Schools are diverse and you will be in multicultural settings. How have you prepared to teach young people from a range of cultural and other backgrounds?
- \* How would you help all pupils achieve their potential?
- \* What are some of the current educational issues?

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### Question # 36

Reasons for wanting to teach based Job Interview Questions:

#### Answer:-

- \* How do you know teaching is the profession for you?
- \* What are you looking forward to about teaching as a profession?
- \* What qualities make a successful teacher?
- \* Do you have any special skills that would contribute to your role as a teacher?
- \* Why are you interested in teaching this subject/key stage, what appeals to you?





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- \* Why do you want to do your teacher training with us?
- \* What sorts of schools would you like to work in, and why?
- \* What key stage are you interested in and why?

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### Question # 37

Your degree based Job Interview Questions:

**Answer:-**

- \* How is your degree subject relevant?
- \* Why did you choose your degree subject and what inspired you?
- \* Give an example of how you would make your degree subject interesting to pupils.
- \* How does your degree apply to primary teaching?

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### Question # 38

General Job Interview Questions:

**Answer:-**

- \* Describe a situation where you had to use your initiative.
- \* How do you overcome challenges?
- \* How do you handle pressure and how will you handle the stress of this profession?
- \* What are your weaknesses?
- \* What difficulties are you likely to encounter as a teacher and how would you deal with them?
- \* Do you have any hobbies or interests that could be useful for extracurricular activities?

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### Question # 39

First Primary School Teaching Job Interview Questions:

**Answer:-**

- \* Name a book that you'd like to read to (or with) your students. Describe the book and tell why you chose it.
- \* How do you feel about working in an inclusion classroom?
- \* How do you meet the needs of a student with an IEP?
- \* How would you teach the writing process?
- \* Describe a high-interest project that you might assign to your students.
- \* What can you offer our school that other candidates cannot?
- \* Do you think you are a flexible person? Explain.
- \* What do you like to do when you're not teaching?
- \* How do you incorporate writing into your curriculum?
- \* Can you show us what your lesson plan book would look like?
- \* How closely do you follow your lesson plans?
- \* Where do you plan to be ten years from now?
- \* What part of this job are you looking forward to?
- \* What part of this job scares you?
- \* In your opinion, what are the biggest challenges that teachers face today?
- \* Why do you want to teach in this, particular district?
- \* How can you make your teaching connect to students' real-world experiences?
- \* Tell me about your references. Who are they and how do they know you?
- \* If I were to call your references, what might they say about you?
- \* How can teachers reach out to the community?
- \* How do you make sure you are teaching to the state standards?
- \* What kinds of materials and supplies would you need to do your job well?
- \* How do you feel about noise in your classroom?
- \* Show us your portfolio.
- \* What questions do you have for us?

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### Question # 40

Explain me why do you want to work for our district?

**Answer:-**

I went to school in Bethel Park and I am proud of the education I received. In elementary school, I had a teacher named Mrs. J. who cared about me and was an excellent teacher. Mrs. J. way of teaching and caring for her students has always been in the back of my mind. Through school and my past professional experiences I tried to model myself off of Mrs. J. and some of the other many wonderful teachers that I was lucky to have in Bethel Park School District. I want to give back to the community what it has given me... (This would be where I would make some corny line up about what being a BP graduate K-12 has done for me as a teacher) Talk about its reputation. Look online to find data about it's test scores and number of students that graduate...

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### Question # 41

Explain me what would you do if a parent asked you a question about their child in the playground after school?

**Answer:-**

I would explain that I am not allowed to talk to parents about individual children for reasons of confidentiality and would direct the parent to arrange to speak to the class teacher.





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### Question # 42

Tell me what do you think is the most important aspect that a kindergarten works on, and what is the most important aspect that a preschool teacher imparts to the child?

#### Answer:-

Education is not just teaching the written word, but it is also molding an entire generation into forward thinking, practical individuals. Also, values are the most important aspects that one can give to the young generation.

Therefore, you should be careful and answer the question with an answer that would send across the point that you focus on the discipline and values that a preschool teacher can impart to children. This is the time to arouse in the children interest in learning and socializing appropriately, while introducing them to rules and regulations.

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### Question # 43

As you know every teacher will have a different style in teaching. What is your style?

#### Answer:-

Demonstrative style of teaching is what I follow where it involves lot of preparation for the class. Text books collate all the information and put it at one place for the students and hence the role of a teacher is to explain the concepts in a way that students understand and remember. Organising practical sessions and showing the videos pertaining to the subject helps students better.

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### Question # 44

Fresh Primary School Teaching Job Interview Questions:

#### Answer:-

- \* What would you do if a parent complained about an assignment?
- \* Describe some methods of "positive reinforcement" that you might use in your classroom.
- \* Would you describe yourself as a "tough" teacher or an "understanding" teacher? Explain.
- \* How would you create a behavior modification for a student with ongoing behavior problems?
- \* What are some ways you can avoid behavior problems?
- \* Without giving any names, describe the most challenging student you've ever taught.
- \* What would you do to calm an angry parent?
- \* Do you have an example of a parent newsletter that you can show us?
- \* In what ways do you communicate with parents on a regular basis?
- \* A parent calls you because they are worried about their child's low grades. What would you say to the parent?
- \* A parent writes a note and tells you that their daughter could not complete their homework assignment because she had a dance recital the night before. What do you do?
- \* How do you keep parents informed of their child's progress?
- \* How do you use technology to enrich your lessons?
- \* How computer literate are you?
- \* Do you think it is appropriate for children in school to be using the Internet?
- \* Give an example of a time when you've worked on a team.
- \* Describe one time when you've acted as a leader.
- \* How do you feel about team-teaching?
- \* What can you do for a student that is extremely gifted?
- \* Describe a gifted student.
- \* How would you recommend a child for special education services?
- \* Most classes have students with a wide-range of reading abilities. What can you do to meet the needs of students with high reading abilities and low reading abilities at the same time?
- \* Tell us a little about your student teaching experiences.
- \* What is your least favorite age/grade/subject to teach? Explain.
- \* What is your favorite age/grade/subject to teach? Explain.

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### Question # 45

Explain how would you motivate a child with special education needs who doesn't want to take part in classroom activities?

#### Answer:-

I would try and be as positive as possible with the child and encourage them to join in using stickers, reward charts etc. and possibly a special mention in assembly for consistently hard work.

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### Question # 46

Tell us what are your thoughts on team-teaching?

#### Answer:-

I am sure many of you have participated in team-teaching and realize the benefits of this strategy. The interviewer who asks this question wants to discover, if you are flexible, enjoy working in a team environment, have experience in this area, and what your viewpoints are on the subject.

It is always wise to speak about some of the positive aspects of team-teaching, such as:

It is an effective strategy for teaching large groups of students. Encourages teachers to collaborate and generate ideas ... two heads are always better than one! Talk about team-teaching experiences you have had, and the positive results that transpired.

If you haven't had any hands-on experience, you may explain that you enjoy working in a team setting and are excited about the possibility of participating in this approach. OR, maybe you have done some reading on the subject and can share some of the insights you gained with the interviewer ... this will definitely be impressive!



## Primary School Teaching Interview Questions And Answers

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Furthermore, it is vitally important to be honest when answering all questions during the interview. Organizing your thoughts in advance will serve to help you deliver truthful and concise responses, while highlighting the skills you possess that are most compatible with the needs of the school or district.

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### Question # 47

As you know discipline is very important for the success of any individual and what is the role of a teacher in it?

**Answer:-**

Schools / educational institutions are the places where the seeds of discipline are sown in the young minds. Students learn the skills to build a bright life where discipline in time, work, and attitude play a vital role. Even though the students remember their teachers as 'strict masters', teachers need to be really committed in making the students abide by the rules and regulations. Giving punishments is justifiable to ensure that the student is on the right track and that indirectly goes to the teachers as a credit.

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### Question # 48

Tell me how would you deal with a child who persistently misbehaves in the classroom?

**Answer:-**

I would work closely with the class teacher to deal with the child in a consistent way. I would use positive encouragement and praise good behavior when possible and follow the school's behavior policy if things don't improve.

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### Question # 49

Tell us what techniques do you follow to ensure active participation of the students in the class?

**Answer:-**

Communication should always be two way. The teacher delivering the lesson and students listening to it is an old style; the teachers today need to be facilitators. Simple techniques like giving small assignments on the subject, conducting quiz competitions and making presentations on the topics helps students to gain interest on the subject.

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### Question # 50

Suppose a child tells you that he or she is being harmed by someone outside school what would you do?

**Answer:-**

I would follow the safeguarding procedure of the school and report the incident to the named senior member of staff responsible but not disclose this to anyone else. I would try to reassure the child and keep them updated on what's happening.

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### Question # 51

Explain me what are your major contributions to the development of the institution you are currently working?

**Answer:-**

To answer this question, you can say something like - Yes, I contributed to many initiatives that helped in making our institution a renowned one in the primary school education in the town city.

Illustrate with how you have taken initiative and implemented with the concurrence of the Principal & colleagues. For e.g. ,

1. Introducing practical sessions for all the classes irrespective whether it is a School Board mandate or not. This was welcomed by all the colleagues and principal as this would help the students in understanding the concepts better.
2. Conducting quarterly extra- curricular assessments of the students in the activities that they have opted during the start of the academic year. This has actually helped in making the students focus on extra- curricular activities and not just the subjects.

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### Question # 52

Tell us how would you describe a successful principal?

**Answer:-**

By asking this question, the hiring committee is attempting to assess the following:

- \* Do you understand what traits contribute to the success of a principal. As a teacher, what traits do you value most.
- \* Your response may indicate or suggest possible conflicts with the current principal.

Responses to this question may include:

It is important that a successful principal...

- \* has a vision and a plan to reach that vision...combined with the ability to bring faculty members together to form a cooperative team and motivate them to reach district goals and objectives.
- \* be visible... the principal's presence should be evident on a continual basis. He or she must be easily accessible to both students and teachers.
- \* has a great sense of humor, and can relate well to a diverse group of individuals.
- \* genuinely cares about the students, teachers, parents, and the district.

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### Question # 53

Tell me do you believe that punishment is the best tool in improving the performance of a student?

**Answer:-**

I have experienced that the fear of punishment is always a good tool to improve the performance of a student.



## Primary School Teaching Interview Questions And Answers

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Punishment should not physically hurt the student as it would only deteriorate the student-teacher relationships.

The punishment should only motivate the student to put extra efforts to improve their knowledge on the subject and also secure good score in the examinations.

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### Question # 54

Explain me what can you offer the school?

**Answer:-**

Again this can take various guises but can be answered in similar ways. It is basically asking you to sell yourself and tell them what you are good at so they can see if you would help the school move on. Maybe they are looking for a music teacher as they lack that sort of expertise, maybe they are looking for a science teacher to lead the school forward in that area.

Other questions they may ask are:

\* Would you be interested in doing an after school club?

\* Would you be available to go on residential with year 5 or 6?

\* Can you outline your strengths?

\* What weaknesses do you have? (This should be turned upside down and make it into a strength because you have combated it and come out successful at the other end.)

Sell yourself here and if you tick the boxes then you are well on the way to earning yourself that new job you want.

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### Question # 55

Explain me about a challenging discipline problem you had. How did you manage it?

**Answer:-**

Teachers regularly experience various types of disruptive student behavior, from the frustrating but relatively minor problem of talking during class, to more challenging problems, like students confronting the authority of the teacher. Provide a specific example and in your answer show your ability to have planned ahead for such instances by having measures in place and a clear action plan to deal with serious discipline problems.

Support any disciplinary action you took with reasons as to why it was effective and why you used it. The interviewers are looking for an effective classroom behavior management plan.

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### Question # 56

Explain me how will you manage this intensive course/challenges at work?

**Answer:-**

Interviewers will want to hear that you're aware of the challenges in your PGCE, teacher training or NQT year and have the stamina and dedication to cope. Perhaps describe a demanding situation or course giving details of how you successfully managed the varying demands. This could be your experience of studying and working at the same time, especially relevant would be experience of preparing lessons and managing a teaching caseload.

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### Question # 57

Explain me what motivates you and helps you maintain high spirits at all times?

**Answer:-**

The enthusiasm that students show in the class and the kind of doubts that they ask are the driving forces for any teacher. Learning is a give and take process. Making the students understand complex concepts in a simple manner that they remember gives a lot of satisfaction for a teacher.

Recollect a situation where you were not in your usual mood in the class but how you were made to recoup to normal by your students.

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### Question # 58

Explain me how have you ensured a positive relationship with parents?

**Answer:-**

Usually there is a governor on the interview panel and they will be interested in how you involve parents in their children's education.

Schools want to see teachers making extra effort to get parents involved in their child's education. Less and less parents are coming into schools for one reason or another but the more a parent is involved with their child's education, the more support they offer and therefore the better their levels will increase during their schools years. Surely that's a win win.

The things you should mention are:

\* What do you think to parent involvement?

\* How do you communicate with parents?

\* Do you make time for parents?

\* Will you go that extra mile to get the support from parents?

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### Question # 59

Tell us how would you handle a particular situation in the kindergarten classroom?

**Answer:-**

This question is more or less aimed at finding out whether you can think on your feet and how child-appropriate your course of action or thought is. Describe how you handle children wanting the same toy. Or what you would do if one child ruin's his classmate's art project or kicks and hits.

Detail how each child is spoken to; how you focus your attention on the injured party.

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### Question # 60



Explain how would you support this school's programme of extra-curricular provision?

**Answer:-**

Any interviewee can expect to answer a number of questions about the school, so learning a bit about the place beforehand is vital. Prior to the interview, find out as much as possible about the school's extracurricular activities, Ofsted results, what type of backgrounds the children come from, etc. so that the answer provided is well-informed.

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**Question # 61**

Tell me what qualities in you made you choose teaching as a profession?

**Answer:-**

Education is the key for the development of the society and teaching is profession where a continuous learning and sharing of knowledge happens. Personally am a very enthusiastic learner and a good communicator with a strong zeal to do contribute to the society. Hence chose this profession to enlighten the young minds and drive them for a better life.

[Read More Answers.](#)

**Question # 62**

Explain how do you deal with behaviour issues in your classroom?

**Answer:-**

The trick here is to turn this question on its head. Make sure you tell the interviewers about your positive behaviour management strategies you use and then you can go onto behaviour issues after, but leaving the emphasis on how you do promote good behaviour in the class.

A model answer could be something like:

"First and foremost I plan my lessons to be interactive and fun. With students engaged in their learning then it is less likely any behaviour issues would arise in the first place. This is backed up with positive reinforcement of what I expect from the children in terms of behaviour and the effort they are putting into their work."

"The next action I put into place is myself and how I act as a model to the children. I will always act like how I want the children to act. Being a positive role model is so important, especially where some of these children don't have one at home."

"Allowing children to feel good about what they have done is a great way to make sure they make the right decisions in terms of behaviour. So a well done in front of the class, or stop the class for them to show off their work and get applauded at the end or a massive praise from the teacher always puts a smile on their face. This is the attention children want. They want to feel good about themselves."

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**Question # 63**

Tell me how do you develop the confidence and self esteem in your students?

**Answer:-**

Teachers should understand that the capabilities of students differ from one another. Giving opportunities to perform to only those students who are bright and enthusiastic is not the correct procedure. This would actually lower the confidence levels of more than 50% of the class who fear of failure and poor performance.

One can say that, in the current institute, we make sure that each and every student takes part in both classroom activities and extra-curricular activities. This actually helps the student overcome fear of not performing well over a period of time and start gaining confidence and build self esteem.

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**Question # 64**

Explain me what would you do if a child complained they were bored?

**Answer:-**

This question may be best answered with the SAR technique (see above). Try to remember a similar situation when a bored child was amused in a stimulating, educational and non-disruptive way.

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**Question # 65**

Explain me why did you select a preschool teacher career?

**Answer:-**

Being a preschool teacher is not an easy job. And not everyone can be a preschool teacher. There has to be some aspects in yourself that made you desire such a position and that will make you the perfect candidate for a preschool teacher job position.

One of the most important aspects is that you should have a natural love for kids and enjoy helping them and being surrounded by them. There is no place for irritability, intolerance or impatience in the job and life of a preschool teacher. These are the concepts that you should bring out in the interview answers, with perhaps a brief, revealing anecdote or two.

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**Question # 66**

Tell me how do you evaluate your own teaching performance?

**Answer:-**

I keep a reflective journal. I write in it at least once a week and reflect on a lesson I taught that week or something that happened in the class and how I handled it. I started this during student teaching and have done one both years I have taught. It's a great way for me to reflect on my successes and think about how I can improve my teaching. It also lifts me up when I reread it on days things have not gone well.

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**Question # 67**

Explain about your classroom management style?

**Answer:-**

Your answer should demonstrate how you achieve effective student management and control. Include aspects such as monitoring, modeling, environmental control and reinforcement. Explain how you are able to adapt your style according to the situation. Provide examples.

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**Question # 68**

Tell me why are you looking for a change from your current institution?

**Answer:-**

I have been working with the current institution for the last X years and it has always been a learning experience all the while. But feel that I am entering the comfort zone and hence change is a must to ensure there is some professional development. Looking for a new and challenging work environment where enhancing my existing skills is a must.

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**Question # 69**

Do you know what is the meaning of a primary caregiver to a child?

**Answer:-**

this is a term used instead of 'mother' or 'father', as many children today are raised by one parent or another person entirely, be it relative or friend. This term avoids calling attention to each child's state. If there are children in the class whose primary caregiver is not the mother, sensitivity and forethought will allow you to tell all kinds of stories without upsetting or embarrassing children.

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**Question # 70**

Explain me what experience do you have in schools?

**Answer:-**

Use evidence from your teaching practice, work in school or observing in a school before your interview. Describe the school and reflect on your learning as well as what interested or surprised you. You can also talk about experience in other settings and with different age ranges than those you're applying to teach in such as nurseries, youth clubs or playschemes.

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**Question # 71**

Tell me you good at organising yourself and other people?

**Answer:-**

The interviewer(s) is looking for a well-organised person who can act as a teacher's aide. A successful candidate should be able to illustrate their organisational skills, based upon teaching experience or otherwise.

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**Question # 72**

Tell me in your opinion what do students look for in their teacher?

**Answer:-**

Students look at their teachers as role models and person who can guide them better for a bright future. As a role model the teacher should infuse positive attitudes towards life and encourage them to be good citizens contributing to the nation and society.

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**Question # 73**

Tell me how do you integrate your class with the school as a whole?

**Answer:-**

One thing I have done is to pair up my younger students with older buddies. They get together a few times a month for an academic activity or art project. Also our school has a lot of whole school activities so of course we participate in those.

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**Question # 74**

Tell me why do you want to be a teacher?

**Answer:-**

You need to give evidence that teaching is your first choice, not a plan B. Tell them about your motivation and aim to show your passion for teaching. Provide good examples from your time in school and the specific teaching elements that you find satisfying. Avoid broad responses such as 'I have always wanted to be a teacher'.

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