

San Joaquin County Academic Decathlon

Topics for Oral Interview Questions

THE QUESTIONS ASKED OF THE STUDENTS MUST BE BASED ON THE TOPICS LISTED BELOW. The questions that follow each topic are examples only.

1. PERSONAL OBJECTIVES & ACADEMICS

“What do you enjoy most about school?”

“Describe your biggest challenge at school.”

“Do you feel it is important to be involved in extra-curricular activities? Explain.”

“Which extra activity you have participated in has affected you the most? How?”

2. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (During and/or After School)

“Describe the type of community service activities that you are involved in or would like to be involved in?”

“What meaningful experiences have you had as a community volunteer?”

“Have you acquired additional skills as a result of your volunteer work?”

“Would your volunteer work possibly help you in the future?”

3. PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

“What would you like to accomplish in the next five years?”

“Perhaps you would share with us some of your dreams for the future.”

“What are some of the things you would like to do upon graduation?”

4. INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM PREPARATION FOR THE DECATHLON

“How did you become interested and/or involved in the Academic Decathlon?”

“What is your most difficult event in the Academic Decathlon?”

“What Academic Decathlon event do you consider to be your strongest?”

“What have been the benefits of being a Decathlon team member?”

5. INFLUENCES & VALUES

“What values do you consider to have most strongly influenced your life?”

“Who do you consider to be the most influential person in your life? Explain.”

“What person from history do you most admire and why?”

6. MISCELLANEOUS IDEAS

“What personal qualities do you possess that will benefit society and why?”

“If you could travel anywhere, where would you go and why?”

“If you could make a major contribution to society, what would it be and why?”

PLEASE DO NOT ASK STUDENTS WHAT SCHOOL THEY ATTEND. ALSO, AVOID ANY QUESTIONS THAT PROBE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, DATING HABITS, PARENTAL RELATIONSHIPS, ETC.