



Practice Interview Questions

Here are some questions the judges might ask you during the interview:

- Why did you choose this topic? What gave you the idea for this topic?
- How is this topic related to the theme of “Debate & Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences”? What ideas were debated? How was diplomacy involved? What were the short-term and long-term successes, failures, and consequences?
- How did different sides view the debate or diplomacy at the time of the event? What was the legacy in later times? Who was impacted by the successes or failures?
- Did the debate and/or diplomacy change the course of history? Why or why not?
- What is the most important point you are trying to convey about your topic?
- What was your most important source? Why?
- What was your favorite part of participating in Vermont History Day?
- What is the most important thing that you learned from completing this project?
- What did you find most difficult about doing the research for this project?
- How did your primary sources help you understand this topic?
- How did you come up with this script or design for your performance, website, documentary, or exhibit?
- Why did the people who are the subject of the entry get involved in whatever they were involved in?
- What were the biggest obstacles to your subjects’ success? How and why were they able to overcome these obstacles?
- What do you think were the most important factors that caused the event in question to occur? What context was necessary for the events to happen?
- What were the most important consequences of this event or person’s action?
- Why is this topic significant in history? Is the topic unique in history or similar to other events/movements?
- *For Local History Topics-* Do you think what was going on in _____ (town/county/state) was unusual, or were the experiences of the people there typical of what was going on elsewhere? Why? How?