

# SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

These questions are provided to help you (Rotarians charged with interviewing high school sophomores/juniors to be selected for Camp RYLA) stimulate responses from the students that will enable you to select the best candidates. In addition to the questions below, use other questions you feel are appropriate to each interview to get the best results. It is not necessary to ask all questions to make a sound selection.

## **Personal Criteria**

- When participating in a group activity, what is the typical role that you play in the group? Please give some examples. (question is designed to get at the degree that participation is active or passive)
- How easy or difficult do you find it to express yourself verbally or in writing? Can you provide an instance in which you spoke or wrote something to express your thoughts or opinions to an audience regarding an issue that is important to you?
- What does having high moral character mean to you and can you cite an instance that demonstrates what you mean?
- Describe some of the short- and long-term goals that you have. (intended to shed light on the degree to which the applicant is goal oriented)
- Describe an instance in which you faced a completely new or unexpected set of circumstances or situation and how you responded.
- How would you describe yourself regarding being a person who is curious and inquisitive about things? Cite some examples.

## **Follow-through**

- How do you monitor when you feel a project is complete? (intent is to gauge willingness to complete a project)

## **Community Involvement**

- What kinds of activities are you in and why are they important to you?

## **Ethics**

- Would you rather have everyone think you have cheated on a test and not have cheated, or have actually cheated and have no one know?

## **Self-awareness**

- What would each of these people say where your strongest and weakest traits: parent, English teacher, close friend, you?

## **Handling Disagreement**

If you are part of a group and nobody, including you, could not agree on a plan. What would you do?

## **Thinking Ability**

- How are M&Ms made? (intended to gauge tendency toward logical thought processes)
- Why are manhole covers round?
- If you have an \$80.00 restaurant bill and you want to leave a 15% tip how much would you leave? (intended to gauge relative intelligence to most other students; If a kid can answer this question he or she is more intelligent than most regardless of his or her grades)

## **Family Support**

Who is the most or are the most important and influential people in your life? (intended to identify support of family)

## **Limitations**

Camp RYLA is 40 percent physical activity, 40 percent mental activity, and 20 percent eating and sleeping. And camp is 100 percent fun.

- Do you have any physical, medical, or emotional or mental reservations about attending this camp? Will you and your parents agree for you to participate in a high ropes challenge course and a river rafting outing?

## **Commitment to RYLA**

- What do you know about this camp RYLA for which you are applying? What are its purposes and what do you expect it to be like?
- Why are you applying? And be specific.
- How sure are you that if selected to attend, you will actually attend?
- What camps have you previously attended and what did you later do to put to use what you learned?
- Attending RYLA involves making a real commitment to fully participate in and be open to experiencing all camp activities; are you willing to make such a commitment?
- Attending RYLA involves making a real commitment to practice what you learn in camp in your school or community; are you willing to make a commitment to applying what you learn on an ongoing basis after camp?