



2021

BC/YUKON VIRTUAL SCIENCE FAIR

Sample Interview Questions: Grades 9-12

INTRODUCTION

- Where did you get your topic or idea for this project?
- Is this work an extension of a project in a previous science fair?
- Why was it interesting to you?
- How did you get started?

EXPERIMENT

- What problem did you decide to investigate? What question did you ask?
- Was your question driven by curiosity only, or might the answer have applications?
- What is the hypothesis you wanted to test?
- Explain your experiment. What equipment did you use? How did you acquire it?
- What was the independent variable? The dependent variable?
- How many trials did you perform?
- Did you keep everything the same from trial to trial, except for the variables being tested?
- Did you repeat any steps?
- What problems did you encounter along the way, and how did you tackle those problems?
- How did you keep track of your results? How did you collect your data?
- Did you use any measuring tools?
- Can you show me any notes, graphs, tables or charts you might have used?
- Did you perform any statistical analysis?
- Did the results support your hypothesis? If yes, how strongly? If no, would you reject your hypothesis, or modify it for another test?
- If your experiment was curiosity-driven, how does your result fit in with, extend, or contradict what is known? What is the next question to ask?
- If your experiment was application-driven, how might the result be useful? How could this be extended by further work?
- Who helped you? How?
- What resources did you use?

INNOVATION

- What subject or issue did you decide to investigate? What need would your innovation fill?
- Where did you get your information? What outside resources did you use?
- Did you speak to any experts or knowledgeable people?
- Did you build something? If so, what materials did you use? What steps did you follow? Did you have a plan or design before you started building?
- Did you have any help before or during the project?
- What problems did you encounter along the way, and how did you tackle those problems?
- How did you test your innovation/project? How many times?
- How did you record the tests? Did you use any statistical analysis?
- Did you change anything to improve it?
- Did it finally work to your satisfaction?
- If you did this project again what would you:
 - Change?
 - Do differently?
 - Like to investigate?
- How is your innovation useful to you? Others?
- Is there anything else you would like to tell or show us?

STUDY

- Why did you choose this topic?
- Why did you find it interesting?
- What are the key issues to address and questions to answer?
- What resources did you use? What types of reading did you do? From where?
- Was your study confined to the library and the internet, or did you contact anyone personally? How valuable or knowledgeable were they?
- Did you have any way to assess the reliability of your sources? What makes a good source? A bad source?
- Did you get important tips, suggestions or ideas from anyone?
- Did you collect any data? How? Who generated the data? Are they a reliable source?
- How did you organize and analyze the data?
- What are your conclusions? How pertinent are they to the issues and questions you began with?
- How could you improve your procedures?
- Are there benefits from your research?
- Do the results of your study have implications beyond science – e.g., political, social, ethical?
- What is the next question?