

## Interview tips

*Page Gentleman*

1. Remember, “interview” means to see each other—colleges want you to apply to them every bit as much as you want them to accept you. So don’t be afraid to ask questions about what they have to offer and what they look for in an applicant. If you are looking for something special, tell them and see how they respond.
2. Ask questions that show you've given the college some real thought. Don't ask if they have Jr. Yr. Abroad, ask about a department or professor or activity or a double major.
3. Talk about your interests, especially as they may connect with the College.
4. Talk about writing or being a TA or why you think integrated courses are of value (e.g. Humanities is better than History + Lit as separate studies). Use other Waring qualities as talking points: Immersion French, primary source materials, notecards, music listening, the science trip to DC, journals and sketchbooks. The idea isn't to sell them on us or on you--it's to show that you've given some thought to your educational and learning experience and you'd like to continue that experience at college.
5. Be thoughtful in your responses. Individual questions aside, what interviewers are often looking for is evidence of leadership, the ability to reflect on experiences, outside interests and commitments, use of free time (peace marches vs gameboy, how you might contribute to campus life, the ability to think on your feet (e.g. take an idea and expand it), maturity, interesting turn of mind, awareness, etc.
6. Don't eat or drink, even if refreshments are offered. You don't want to spill coffee or talk with your mouth full or get crumbs on your face.
7. The obvious—dress appropriately for the interview, sit up straight, maintain friendly eye contact, don't twist around, drum your fingers, etc. Be courteous but don't be afraid to be genuine.
8. When you leave, shake hands and say thank you. The next day, write a thank you note; include a sentence that begins "I've been thinking about your comment on. . ." (it shows you can think AND listen)
6. Be yourself; enjoy yourself.