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 “Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas”? What new frontiers were crossed? What people, places, and ideas were involved? What were the short-term and long-term changes and impacts?

- How did different sides view the “frontier” at the time of the event? What was the legacy in later times? Who was impacted by the people or ideas?

- Did the people, places, and ideas related to frontiers 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 transforming a “frontier”? How and why were the people involved 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?