

Interview questions and subjects you can cover during your sessions with potential au pair applicants:

1. Introduction and Background:

- a. Tell me about yourself and your background.

2. Childcare Experience:

- a. How many years of childcare experience do you have?
- b. What age groups have you worked with? Do you have a preference?
- c. Can you describe a challenging situation you faced while taking care of children and how you handled it?
- d. Please explain your comfort level and approach in assisting with homework and engaging in educational activities with children?
- e. Please explain your knowledge level on different stages of child development? Can you provide examples of activities appropriate for different age groups?
- f. Please explain your knowledge level on stimulation of a child's cognitive, social, and emotional development?
- g. Please explain your knowledge level about age-appropriate discipline techniques?
- h. How do you approach technology usage and screen time limits for children in your care?
- i. Are you familiar with age-appropriate online safety practices and guidelines?
- j. Can you provide examples of activities or alternatives to screen time that you would engage children in?

3. Personal Attributes and Qualities:

- a. What qualities do you think are important for an au pair to possess?
- b. How do you handle stressful situations or emergencies?
- c. Please explain and expand on your patience and understanding when it comes to children's behavior?

4. Practical Skills:

- a. What specific certifications do you have related to childcare (e.g., CPR, first aid)?
- b. Please explain your comfort level and experience in preparing meals and snacks for children? Do you have any dietary restrictions or preferences?
- c. Please explain your comfort level to assist with light household chores related to the children's care?

5. Interests and Activities:

- a. What are some activities you enjoy doing with children?
- b. Please explain your comfort level in helping children with extracurricular activities (e.g., sports, music, arts)?
- c. Provide more information on any hobbies or special skills you can share with children?

6. Schedule and Availability:

- a. What is your availability for working as an au pair (e.g., part-time, full-time, live-in)?
- b. Are you available to work on weekends or evenings if needed?
- c. What is your preferred duration of an au pair placement (e.g., a few months, a year)?

7. Cultural Exchange and Adaptability:

- a. Please explain your comfort level on immersing yourself with any specific cultures and customs as it relates to our family?
- b. How do you handle being in a new environment or adapting to different household rules?
- c. Please explain your comfort level in different languages as it pertains to our family. Do you speak any additional languages?

8. Safety and Security:

- a. How do you prioritize the safety and security of the children you care for?
- b. Are you familiar with basic safety guidelines, such as childproofing, administering medication, or handling emergencies? If not, are you willing to attend such training?
- c. How would you handle a medical emergency involving a child (e.g., injury, allergic reaction)?
- d. Are you familiar with emergency contact numbers and procedures in the area where you'll be working?
- e. Are you comfortable being monitored, if applicable, by security cameras installed at our home, and do you have any objections as this relates to looking after our children?

9. Driving and Transportation:

- a. Do you have a valid driver's license? If yes, for how long have you been driving?
- b. Please explain your comfort level driving children to school, extracurricular activities, or appointments?
- c. Have you ever been involved in a traffic accident? If yes, please provide details.

10. Communication and Conflict Resolution:

- a. How do you communicate with children of different age groups effectively?
- b. Can you provide an example of a time when you had to resolve a conflict between siblings or children in your care?
- c. Please explain your approach in communicating with parents about the children's progress, activities, or any issues that arise?

11. Boundaries and Professionalism:

- a. How do you maintain professional boundaries while working as an au pair?
- b. How do you handle situations where the parents' rules or expectations differ from your own?
- c. Please explain your approach and comfort levels following the guidelines and instructions provided by the family?

