

VIDEO CHAT INTERVIEW SIMULATION

Age Group: Middle, High School

Learning Goals:

- Simulate a video chat interview to anticipate a real-world situation
- Build reliable verbal communication skills
- Conduct themselves professionally in a video call

Materials:

- Small cardboard divider for a desk
- Copies of [Student Resource - Video Interview Simulation Handout](#) (one for each student)
- Computer with webcam access (one for each student)
- Google Meet, Zoom, Skype, or other video chat app

Estimated Time: 25 minutes



Activity Details

1. Give each student the [Student Resource - Video Interview Simulation Handout](#)
2. Break students into pairs and assign each person either the "Interviewer" or the "Candidate" role.
3. Discuss the ways that video interviews are different from phone interviews and the importance of making a good impression in a video interview.
 - For a video interview, you need to be sure you are dressed professionally (at least from the waist up) since the interviewer will be able to see you.
 - Being live and able to see each other can lead to more natural conversation than a phone interview.
 - Video interviews allow for flexibility. You don't have to be in the same place to conduct a video interview, so it can be a less expensive alternative to an in-person interview while still getting a face-to-face experience.
 - You may also be asked to record your answers to interview questions and submit them to the interviewer(s) instead of a live video chat.
 - Students can use a cardboard divider, computer monitors, folders, or other classroom items as dividers. Students should be oriented as shown to the right. Alternatively, if you have more space, you can put interviewers and candidates in separate rooms then complete the activity.
4. Ask students to turn on their monitor and open the webcam. They should see themselves from the shoulders up, along with their background.
 - Your background and surroundings in a video chat are important. In addition to dressing professionally for a video interview, you also need to make sure your background is professional.

- There should NOT be a mess, unprofessional posters or other content in view, too much light, or not enough light.
- Make sure that your entire video chat frame is professional.

5. Each pair of students will need to have a visible divider between them. Students can use a cardboard divider, computer monitors, folders, or other classroom items as dividers. Students should be oriented as shown to the right. Alternatively, if you have more space, you can put interviewers and candidates in separate rooms and have them complete the activity that way.



6. Before beginning the simulation, instruct students to read and fill-in their script worksheets. Allow time for them to complete this step.
7. As you prepare to begin the simulation, remind students that they should not be able to see each other in order to simulate a real video chat.
8. Give them ample time to complete the video chat interview simulation.
9. When they have finished, have each pair switch roles and get a new script worksheet for their new role. Have them complete the worksheet and then begin the simulation.
10. When they have finished the second simulation, lead a discussion on what they thought about the activity, what was challenging, what they would do differently next time, how they rate themselves on their professionalism and communication, etc.
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