

# SLP Clinical Questions

Below you will find a sample of questions your supervisor may ask when you are interviewing for clinical positions.

## School-Based Placements:

- What is an IEP and its legal implications?
- In your own words, can you define HIPAA and FERPA? Why are they important in our field?
- What is the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)? How does that influence an IEP?
- Who writes the IEP? Who enforces the IEP? How do schools determine eligibility?
- Which evaluations do you have experience administering? Can you describe the differences between formal and informal testing measures?
- How comfortable are you working with children with autism? How would you explain the nature/causes of the syndrome? Can it be cured?
- How do you effectively match your skilled interventions to different levels of need?
- How would you proceed if your interventions for speech and language deficits are not working?
- Have you ever dealt with a difficult parent? How did you handle it? What would you do differently in hindsight?
- How do you track your students' progress in therapy? What do you do if no progress is being shown?
- If a student reports abuse and/or you witness suspected abuse, what do you do?

## Medically Based Placements:

- What are the components of a bedside swallowing evaluation?
- What is the difference between dysarthria and apraxia?
- When is a modified barium swallow study indicated for a patient?
- What speech-language skill deficits might you see in a TBI patient?
- What goal(s) would you set for patients with progressive neurological disorders (such as Parkinson's, ALS, Alzheimer's, etc)?
- What types of patients are the most challenging for you to work with? Why?
- What types of patients do you prefer? Why?
- In what areas do you need the most supervision?
- How do you document patient progress?

## Clinically Based Speech Placements:

- What experience do you have coaching/training parents on the skills to use at home to address speech and language deficits?
- Tell me about a time you had to counsel a parent. What advice did you give them? Did you receive any pushback on either the diagnosis or the treatment? How would you handle a disagreement from a parent?

## SLP Clinical Questions

- A parent brings a child in for an assessment. The child is rolling around on the floor, throwing a tantrum, and is uncooperative. What do you do?
- In some states, developmental delay (DD) is a category of eligibility for children ages 3 to 7. It is a way for early-service providers to offer more services should a child warrant them. In thinking about global skills, beyond just speech and language, what types of behaviors/deficits should you look out for when evaluating a child? What would be global red flags to you?

### Sample Questions from the Supervisor About You:

- What skill sets do you have that make you unique?
- Why do you want to be a speech-language pathologist?
- In the world of speech and language, what areas excite you? Which areas do you find challenging?
- Think about your best therapy session—either designed by you or observed from another SLP. What made the session effective? How could it be further improved upon?
- Think about your worst therapy session—either designed by you or observed from another SLP. Why didn't the session work? How could you improve it moving forward?
- In your opinion, what is the biggest challenge in the field of speech-language pathology?
- What are the benefits and disadvantages of teletherapy/telehealth?
- Have you ever disagreed with another professional or parent? How did you handle the disagreement? What would you do differently?

