FOCUSED DISCUSSION

Agenda
(Target duration: 20 min.)

[Note: Preparation of materials should occur well before the group interview begins, as part of general groundwork for the interview.]

I. Preparation of Materials: Duplicate one copy of the Conversation Starters handout for each Candidate - Facilitator

II. Introduction of Activity and Completion of Conversation Starters (brief) – Facilitator
   A. Distribute Conversation Starters handouts
   B. Direct Candidates to complete three or four specific sentence stems and additional items as time allows
   C. Remind Candidates to limit each response to one complete sentence
   D. Allow Candidates to complete additional sentence stems as directed

III. Discussion (10-15 min.) - Facilitator
   A. Discuss responses to Facilitator-selected sentence stems
   B. Discuss additional responses as time allows
   C. Conduct debriefing
      1. What was your response to Item “I”?
      2. What do you think is the purpose of this activity?
      3. How do you think this activity will help us evaluate your ability as potential employees?

IV. Conclusion (brief) - Facilitator
   A. Ask for final questions or comments
   B. Direct Candidates to submit completed Conversation Starters handout

Conversation Starters

**Directions:** Complete the sentence stems identified by the Facilitator. You may complete additional items as time allows. Please limit each response to one complete sentence.

A. I laugh out loud when I think of . . .
B. It is easiest for me to learn when . . .
C. The teacher I liked best was a person who . . .
D. I can’t understand students who . . .
E. I find it easiest to work with people who . . .
F. I want to be remembered as a person who . . .
G. My greatest weakness is probably . . .
H. I find it difficult to work with people who . . .
I. A sentence stem I’d suggest adding to this worksheet would be . . .