

Things To Do In A Group Discussion

Group discussions are on-the-spot and participants usually get topics only once they enter the discussion room. While preparing for the exact topic may not be an option, applicants can do a few things to ensure that they nail the group discussion.

1. Take initiative

If you are familiar with the topic of discussion, do not wait for someone else to begin. Start the discussion with a few points and observations that you think are most relevant. If you do not get the opportunity to begin the discussion, you can still contribute by giving your opinions or countering another person's points. Most importantly, ensure that you do not remain silent. While listening is an appreciated skill, the moderator will not be able to evaluate you on any parameter unless you contribute to the discussion.

2. Stay on topic

Often, discussions tend to become heated when there are opposing ideas. Small cliques might also form within the group. Candidates in the centre of such heated discussions tend to get carried away while talking. Soon enough, everyone is way off topic discussing personal opinions and preferences. Moderators are likely to notice this much before anyone in the group but it must be remembered that group discussions are leaderless gatherings. Moderators might notice that the whole group or a certain person has taken off on a tangent but they will likely say nothing. Each candidate must pay attention to what is being said and contribute relevantly to the topic.

3. Do not shout

Some people may find it very difficult to speak politely especially if someone else holds an opposing view. It is okay to disagree with everyone but make sure you do not raise your voice or start a conflict. These are very messy situations to put yourself in because some of these people might work with you in future or influence your career in some way later on. Also, shouting louder than others does not gain you any points with the moderator. At such times, the moderator is probably looking for someone to exhibit conflict resolution skills, diplomacy and leadership.

4. Show agreement

Many believe that group discussions are opportunities to take an opposing stand from the rest of the group or support extreme opinions. If you truly believe in the stand you have taken, you must stand firm on that. However, during the course of the discussion, you might be convinced otherwise or you may feel someone else's point is valid. Do not be afraid to agree with others and change your views if you really think they are right. Agreement shows that you are willing to accommodate new ideas and go with the best decision.

5. Be a team player

One of the primary personality traits that moderators hope to see during group discussions is whether a person is a team player or not. Being able to show agreement is part of that trait. A team player also allows others to express their opinions and remains fair to everyone. When people shout on top of others, make personal attacks and belittle people for their views, there is a good chance that they will not make it past the group discussion round.

Topic: Is the portrayal of violence in video games harmful to society?

Indication: The following information is just a reference for your discussion. Please note that your discussion about this topic can cover whatever aspect you want to talk about.

Introduction

Violent video games have been a subject of controversy and debate for decades. These games, characterized by their graphic depictions of violence, often raise concerns about their potential impact on players, particularly children and adolescents. Advocates argue that they provide a harmless outlet for stress and aggression, while opponents warn of desensitization to violence and negative behavioral effects.

Agree

- Increased tolerance for violence
- Negative influence on morality
- Bad effects on mental health
- Impact on youth development
- Cultural norms and values
- Aggressive behavior

Against

- Player's rights
- Parental responsibility
- Improve spatial awareness, hand-eye coordination
- Sense of community and social connection
- Rating systems and content warnings
- Stereotype