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## Icebreaker Questions

1. Mentor: What is your occupation? Mentee: What is your favorite subject in school?
2. Both: What kind of music do you listen to?
3. Both: What is your favorite time of the year? Why?
4. Both: What is your favorite sport to play? To watch on T.V.?
5. Both: What is your favorite thing to drink?
6. Both: What was your favorite toy when you were little?
7. Both: What are you scared of?
8. Both: If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be?
9. Both: What time do you wake up?
10. Both: What makes you angry?
11. Both: If you could play any instrument what would it be?
12. Both: If you could have one superpower what would it be?
13. Both: Where were you born?
14. Mentor: What did you want to be when you were little?  
Mentee: What do you want to be when you grow up?
15. Both: Tell me about your family.
16. Mentor: What college did you attend? Mentee: Do you want to go to college/Trade School?  
If so, where?

# Conversation Starters: Week of 1/9

\*Questions are to be answered and discussed by both the mentor and the mentee.\*

- What was the single best thing that happened this past year?
- What was the single most challenging thing that happened this past year?
- Tell me three words to describe 2022.
- What was your biggest time waster of 2022?
- What was the best way you spent your time in 2022?
- If you had 2022 to do over again what would you do differently? Why?

## Conversation Starters: Week of 1/16

\*Questions are to be answered and discussed by both the mentor and the mentee.\*

- Do you ever have a dream that comes back over and over? If so, what is it like?
- Does the typical kid play video games too much? Why or why not?
- If you were going to have a weird, unusual pet, what would it be? Why would you want that pet?
- What is the nicest thing a friend has ever done for you?
- What is the nicest thing you have ever done for a friend?
- Do you have an idea for a great invention? What is it and why would it be great?

## Conversation Starters: Week of 1/23

\*Questions are to be answered and discussed by both the mentor and the mentee.\*

- Did you ever tell on someone? What happened?
- When do you feel grouchy? Why?
- Do you ever try to be like someone else? Why?
- What is the best thing about being a kid? Why?
- What is the worst thing about being a kid? Why?
- Do you think you could go an entire day without talking?
- What do you do when you are bored?

## Conversation Starters: Week of 1/30

\*Questions are to be answered and discussed by both the mentor and the mentee.\*

- If you have ever been camping, talk about it.
- When did you need to have courage?
- Would you rather eat pizza or hot dogs for a whole year?
- What would your dream house look like?
- What do you usually do during the weekends?
- If you could only take five things with you to a deserted island, what would they be?



# Heads or Tails

*This is an easy icebreaker game that requires almost no set-up. Just a paper, a pen, and a penny (any coin will do)!*

- On a piece of paper, create two separate lists with the word “Heads” on top of one and “Tails” on top of the other.
- List One should be a list of favorites such as animal, color, book, etc.
- List Two should be “would you rather” questions — would you rather have a dog or cat, eat cereal for breakfast or dinner, etc.
- Mentor flips the coin and the mentee answers the question.
- Now the mentee flips the coin and the mentor asks the question.
- Keep switching until all questions are answered.
- Go through the questions and each of you answer the questions that you didn’t get to.

## Example List

| <b>Heads- Favorites</b> | <b>Tails- Would You Rather</b>   |
|-------------------------|--|
| Animal?                 | have telekinesis (the ability to move things with your mind) or telepathy (the ability to read minds)? |
| Color                   | be forced to sing along or dance to every single song you hear? (assuming you know all the words)      |
| Candy                   | Would you rather be the funniest person alive or the smartest person alive?                            |
| Dessert                 | Would you rather be the funniest person alive or the smartest person alive?                            |
| Ice Cream Flavor        | Would you rather be a famous singer or a famous actor?   |
| Smell                   | Would you rather be able to fly or be invisible?   |
| Memory                  | Would you rather never have to shower again or never have to clip your toenails?                       |
| School Subject          | Would you rather have the chance to design a new toy or direct a movie?                                |
| Song                    | Would you rather be ten years older or four years younger?   |





## Yes/no (speaking)

This is a popular, fast-paced question and answer game. You'll need a timer, a pen, and a sheet of paper!

- Get a timer set to 1 minute.
- Explain that the mentee must ask you as many questions as possible in a time limit of one minute.
- The Mentor must answer each question truthfully but is **not allowed to say Yes or No**. If they say *Yes* or *No* in reply to a question, they lose and it is now the mentees turn to answer questions.
- Tally answered questions on a sheet of paper.
- Whoever answers the most questions without saying yes or no wins!
- Play as many times as you'd like!



## Ant or Elephant

- Start by asking your mentee if they would rather be an ant or an elephant, and why?
- Next, read them a scenario, and then ask if they'd rather be an ant or an elephant in that situation, and why?
- Once all scenarios have been read ask them if they would still rather be what they chose before.
- Do they think that both animals have good qualities and bad qualities?
- Do they think the ant and elephant could accomplish more if they work together or separate?
  - This helps them understand that we all have our differences, but if we work together those differences become strengths that can help us.
- Explain that sometimes it's good to be big and sometimes it's good to be small. (give examples) Then ask them to give an example.
  - Reaching things up high
  - Fitting through small spaces
- Sometimes it's good to be loud and sometimes it's good to be quiet. (give examples) Then ask them to give an example.
  - Talking in a play
  - Listening in class
- Sometimes it's good to be brave, and sometimes it's brave to be good. (give examples) Then ask them to give an example.
  - Standing up to a bully
  - Choosing to do the right thing when all your friends want to do something bad.

# Scenarios

1. Walking inside of the front door to your house.
2. Trying to get food without waking up your family.
3. Jumping on a trampoline.
4. Trying to be sneaky to scare your friend.
5. Playing Hide-N-Seek
6. Playing Basketball
7. Walking on a tightrope.
8. Climbing up a tree.
9. Riding on a scooter.
10. Clapping your hands.



## Would You Rather... But Really Though?

Tell your mentee that you will be playing, would you rather like normal except the other person will try to change your mind.

- Ask the mentee a “Would You Rather” question.
- Hear their answer and then figure out if you can change their mind, whether you agreed with their answer or not.
- If you are able to change their mind, you get a point.
- After each question, switch between who asks and who answers.
- Whoever was able to change the other person's mind the most times, wins.

(to sway their answer, ask “but what if” questions)

*Ex. Would you rather live on a beach or in the mountains? (Answer: Beach)*

*“But what if there is a giant hurricane coming?”*

This helps them get more creative when trying to sway you.

## Example Questions

1. Would you rather carry a flip phone or only use a desktop computer?
2. Would you rather never play video games again or never use your favorite mobile app again?
3. Would you rather spend a day without your phone or a day with no people at all?
4. Would you rather only use email to communicate or only use voice calls (no video calls)?
5. Would you rather read only e-books or read only physical books?
6. Would you rather live without a microwave or live without a toaster?
7. Would you rather have no air conditioning or no heating?
8. Would you rather only charge your phone once a week or not have a camera on your phone?
9. Would you rather never use a GPS or only be able to drive stick shift cars?
10. Would you rather only use Netflix or only use Hulu?
11. Would you rather be an only child or have ten siblings?
12. Would you rather have a famous family member or be the famous family member?
13. Would you rather have your own family reality TV show or have your own family band?
14. Would you rather be the oldest child or the youngest child?
15. Would you rather have your grandma or your grandpa follow you around school for the day?
16. Would you rather own a restaurant with your family or own a retail clothing store with your family?
17. Would you rather have to do laundry for your family or cook meals for your family?

18. Would you rather eat out by yourself or eat at home with your family?

19. Would you rather take care of all your family's pets or have no pets at all?