



MEDIC MIND
INTERVIEWS

MMI Mock Sheffield

—
Exact Questions



Sheffield MMI Mock

STATION 2



MOTIVATION FOR MEDICINE

STATION 3



MEDICAL ETHICS

STATION 4



PERSONALITY

STATION 5



PERSONALITY

STATION 6



COMMUNICATION

STATION 7



MEDICAL ETHICS

STATION 1

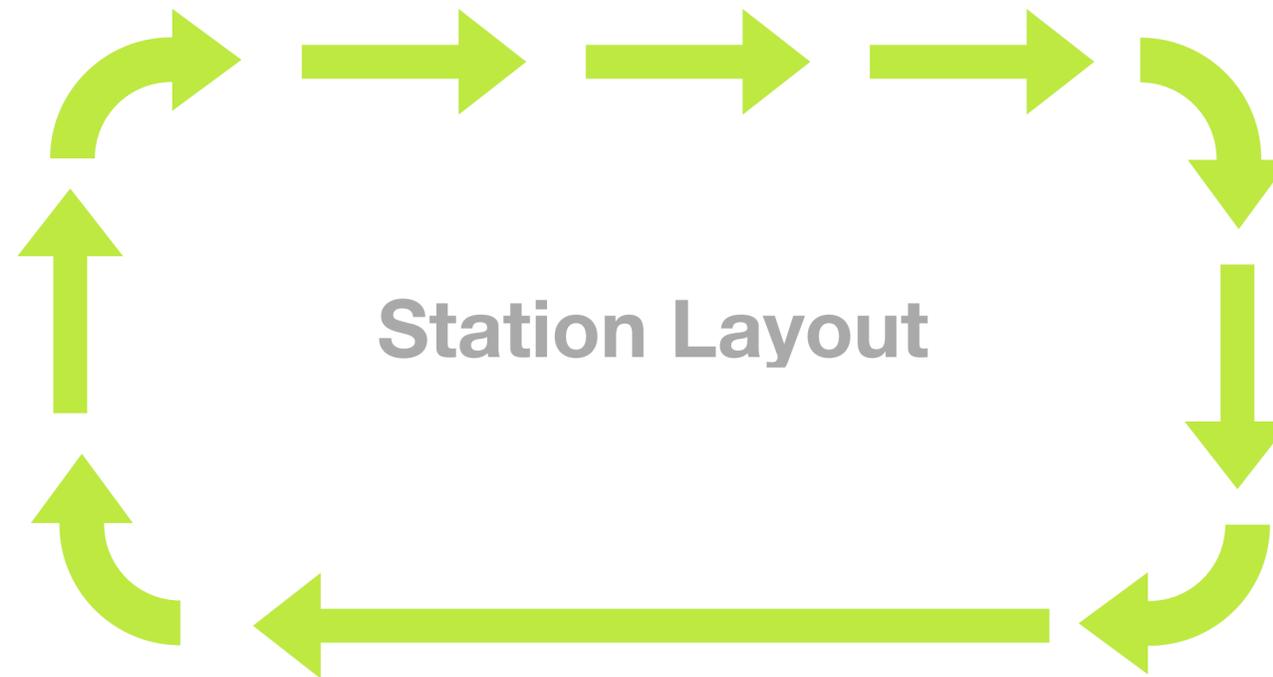


MOTIVATION FOR MEDICINE

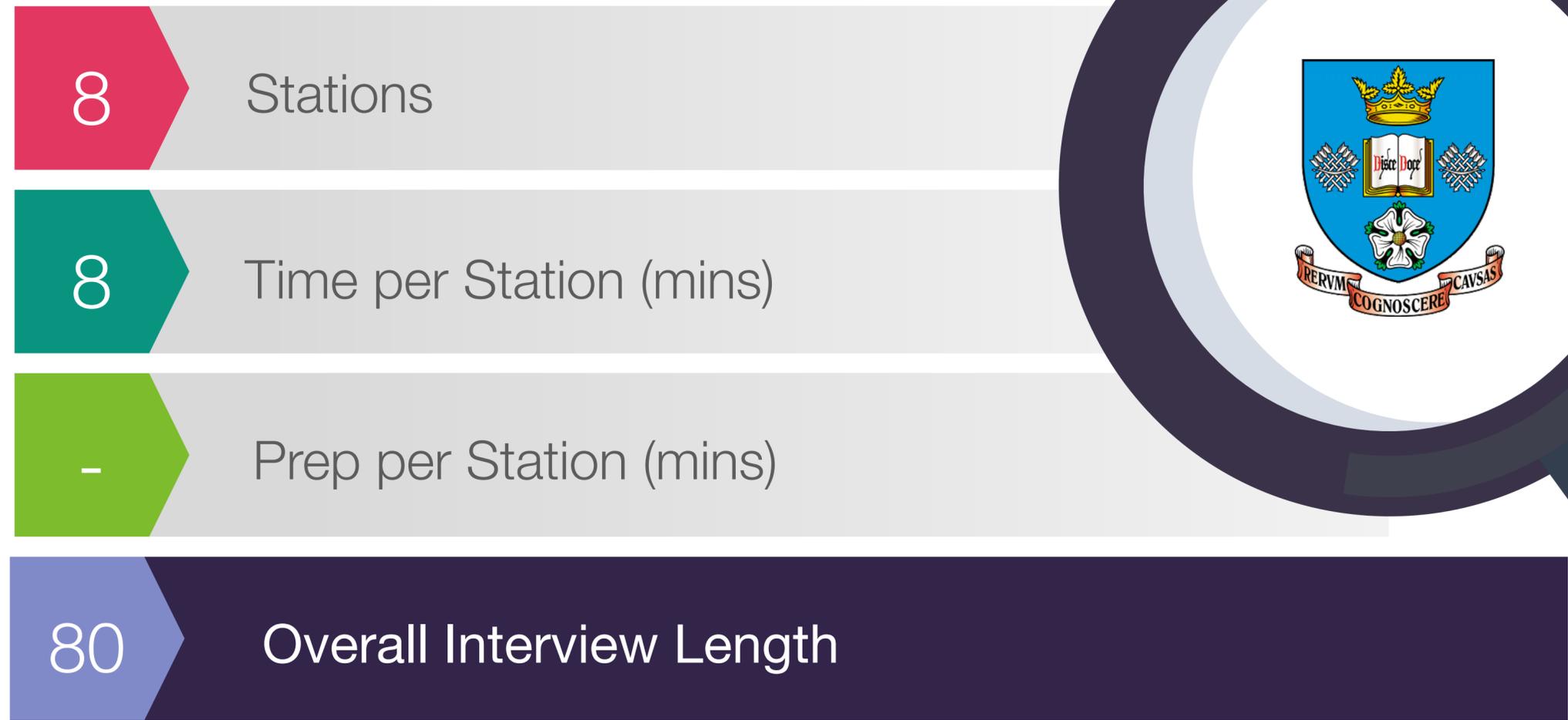
STATION 8



PERSONALITY

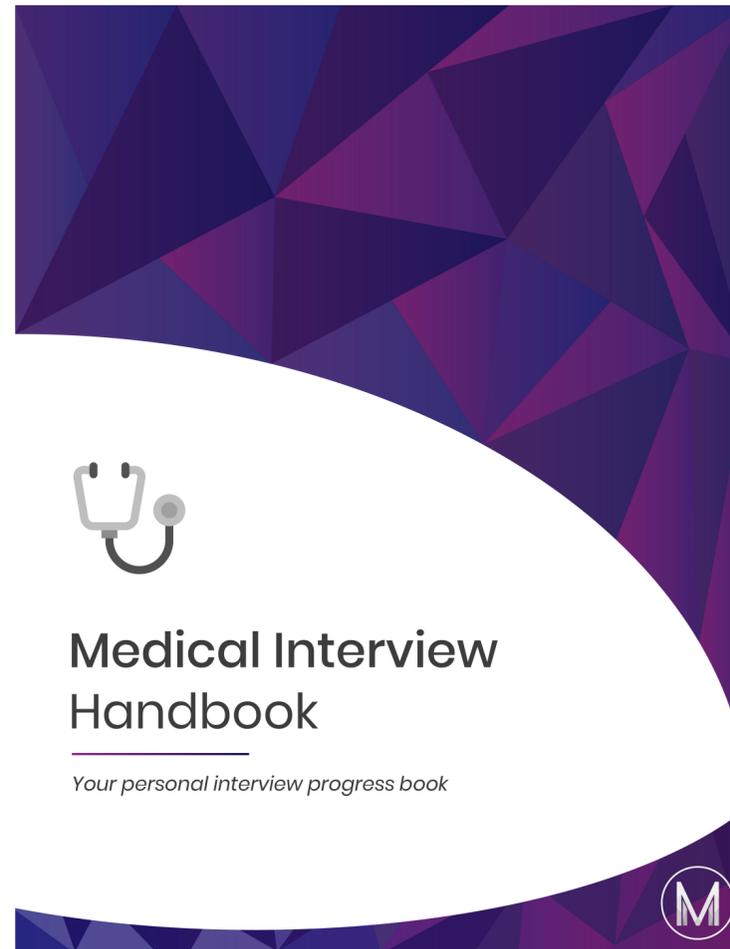


Timings



Personal Interview Handbook

Fill in the mark scheme in the Student Handbook



Make sure your tutor fills in the template mark scheme in your tutor handbook. That way you can track your progress and look back on specific information about your performance.



MMI STATION 1



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Why Sheffield? (Part 1 of 3)

If you are successful in your application you may be spending 5 years living and studying in Sheffield. What can you tell me about the City of Sheffield and the University of Sheffield?





MMI STATION 1



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Why Sheffield? (Part 2 of 3)

What do you know about the Sheffield MBChB curriculum?





MMI STATION 1



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Why Sheffield? (Part 3 of 3)

Medical schools around the world receive far more applications than there are places. This means that many excellent applicants will receive no offers. If this happens to you, what will you do?



MMI STATION
SCENARIO

1



If you are successful in your application you may be spending 5 years living and studying in Sheffield. **What can you tell me about the City of Sheffield and the University of Sheffield? What do you know about the Sheffield MBChB curriculum?**

GOOD ANSWER

- **New facilities.** The university recently went through a refurbishment, so the campus is modern and of high quality.
- **Teaching style.** Traditional learning with predominantly lectures.
- **Teaching hospitals.** This includes the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, part of which is the main building of the medical school
- **Discussion scenarios.** Alongside traditional lectures, there are problem based discussion scenarios, giving you a variety of learning styles.

BAD ANSWER

- **Focusing on generic things.** Some students may discuss the 'great teaching quality' and 'fantastic resources' without being specific (e.g. by quoting the recent refurbishment).
- **Focusing on menial things.** Some students may talk too much about casual things. Societies are good to mention, but don't spend your whole answer on that. And don't talk about the nightlife as a big incentive for going to Sheffield!
- **Lacking a balance.** Focusing too much on either the city or the university, rather than covering both points in the time you have.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO

1



If you are successful in your application you may be spending 5 years living and studying in Sheffield. **What can you tell me about the City of Sheffield and the University of Sheffield? What do you know about the Sheffield MBChB curriculum?**

GOOD ANSWER

- **Opportunity to do SSCs.** Student Selective Components (SSCs) enable you to explore further modules in various subjects - e.g. languages, history, research medicine.
- **MedSoc.** Largest and most active medical society in the country. Perhaps mention a particular interest in one of the MedSoc's sub-societies (<https://sheffmedsoc.com/societies/>)
- **Famous discoveries.** Regularly introduced to latest breakthroughs by the university by respected scientists. e.g. Cod Liver Oil - Edward Mellanbs. e.g. Krebs Cycle - Sir Hans Krebs
- **Research opportunities.** At the start of Year 2, you get the opportunity to do a 6 week research project, which will be interesting to gain an insight into a specific research faculty.
- **City of Sheffield.** Mention particular interest in the culture of the city - Sheffield is not too big or too small. There is a friendly and warm feel to the city.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO1 

Medical schools around the world receive far more applications than there are places. This means that many excellent applicants will receive no offers. **If this happens to you, what will you do?**

GOOD ANSWER

- **Re-apply.** Show passion for medicine and re-apply, rather than giving up after one go.
- **Work experience.** Show a plan to work in a hospital for an extended period of time during your year off to learn more about medical specialties.
- **Creative work.** Working on charity projects, organising community events, and being proactive.
- **Portray the passion.** Emphasise that medicine is a 50+ year career, so 1 year isn't a huge deal.

BAD ANSWER

- **Just talk about travelling.** Some students just say that they want to 'travel the world'. You can mention travel, but you should also be doing something useful during the year.
- **Apply for something else.** Even if this is true, don't say this unless appropriate - e.g. you could justify doing your 5th option (e.g. in biomedical sciences).
- **Get emotional.** Don't go on about how sad you would be, and how much you want this place. This is avoiding the question topic.





MMI STATION 2



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Work Experience & 7 Day NHS (Part 1 of 2)

What inspired you to want to become a doctor? Tell me about a patient that you saw during your work experience or volunteering who inspired you to find out more about what was wrong with them.





MMI STATION 2



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Work Experience & 7 Day NHS (Part 2 of 2)

Do you think that non-emergency services should be provided 7 days a week in the NHS?



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 2

What inspired you to want to become a doctor?

GOOD ANSWER

- **Interest in science.** Passion for learning about the human body.
- **Desire to help people.** Reference charity work and your altruistic nature.
- **Social aspect.** Interest in patient contact and human engagement
- **Work experience.** Insights during work experience placements.
- **Personal experience** - e.g. a family member being ill in hospital.

BAD ANSWER

- **Too unrealistic.** e.g. 'at age 7, I broke my arm, and it inspired me to become a doctor'. You can say that this sparked your interest, but you have to mention how this interest grew into a passion.
- **Too generic.** Not giving specifics. For example, saying 'desire to help people' is fine, but you have to go further and link it to your volunteering / charity work, or explain why you actually like helping people.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 2

Tell me about a patient that you saw during your work experience or volunteering who inspired you to find out more about what was wrong with them.

GOOD ANSWER

- **Structured approach.** STARR method is useful. Speak in a logical and structured method - avoid being too long-winded, but give enough detail to set the scene.
- **Discuss personal research.** e.g. 'I saw a patient with Chronic Kidney Disease, and it inspired me to do my own personal research. To raise awareness, I gave a talk at my school during a lunch time'. It takes 60 minutes to do some research and prepare a short talk, and the talk could be to 5 friends - do it!

BAD ANSWER

- **Not picking a specific patient.** Students have a tendency to talk too generically about patients in general, without picking a specific patient.
- **Not knowing much about the condition.** This question is focusing on the condition that the patient has as well as the patient as a person. It won't look good if you haven't done your research about the patient's condition and treatment.
- **Lying.** If you try to lie about a patient, it could get found out. You may say something which isn't correct for a certain condition and this will look odd.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 2

Do you think that non-emergency services should be provided 7 days a week in the NHS?

PROS OF 7 DAY NHS

- **Improved patient care.** Will improve patient services on weekends, which can sometimes be poor
- **Stops consultants opting out.** Consultants currently can opt out of non-emergency work at weekends. But this can be detrimental to the NHS.
- **Increased doctor wages.** Doctors wages can be increased to compensate, and this may encourage some doctors

CONS OF 7 DAY NHS

- **More stress.** It will lead to more stress for doctors, leading to poorer morale and worse efficiency
- **More mistakes.** Tired doctors will make more mistakes
- **Less desire to be a doctor.** There is already a growing negative stigma against some parts of the job of a doctor, so it could reduce medical applications
- **Discussion of wages.** The NHS hasn't got funds to pay higher wages on weekends

Interview
Top Tip



Don't be scared to think outside the box and try to actually provide a solution. For example, you could argue against a 7 day NHS, but state that if it does happen, there should be much higher wages for doctors to compensate.





MMI STATION 3



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

GMC and Confidentiality (Part 1 of 4)

What can you tell me about the General Medical Council's code of conduct for doctors?





MMI STATION 3



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

GMC and Confidentiality (Part 2 of 4)

Why is patient confidentiality important?





MMI STATION 3



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

GMC and Confidentiality (Part 3 of 4)

Do you think it might ever be appropriate to breach a patient's confidentiality? Can you give any examples?





MMI STATION 3



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

GMC and Confidentiality (Part 4 of 4)

While working at your Saturday job in a shop you find that one of your colleagues has arrived at work smelling of alcohol. They appear to be intoxicated, and you know that they drove to work. What actions would you take?



MMI STATION
SCENARIO

3

What can you tell me about the General Medical Council's code of conduct for doctors?

GOOD ANSWER

1. **Knowledge, Skills and Performance.** This section is about providing a good standard of care, remaining up to date with knowledge and make the care of the patient your first concern!
2. **Safety and Quality.** This section is about taking action when a patient's safety is at risk.
3. **Communication, Partnership, Teamwork.** This section is about treating patients as individuals, maintaining confidentiality and to respect patients.
4. **Maintaining Trust.** This section tells you not to discriminate with patients or abuse their trust. You should act with integrity.

For more detail, read the Medic Mind UKCAT Situational Judgement Book



MMI STATION
SCENARIO

3

Why is patient confidentiality important?

GOOD ANSWER

- **It builds the doctor-patient relationship.** Patients need to have trust in their doctor, and if there was no confidentiality they may hide details that might be vital to a diagnosis, or they may not even see a doctor if they were ashamed about a disease (e.g. STI)
- **Confidentiality is a human right-** respect for patient's autonomy.
- **Stops exploitation.** Prevents exploitation of data (e.g. by insurance companies)
- **Improves public confidence in healthcare.** This leads to patients being more open and generally trusting doctors a lot.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 3

Do you think it might ever be appropriate to breach a patient's confidentiality? Can you give any examples?

GOOD ANSWER

- **Yes, in certain situations:**
 - When there is a risk to a third party (e.g. STI)
 - Report road crime to police (Road traffic act)
 - When sharing information with other HC professionals

Interview
Top Tip



Learn these three examples off by heart. Some situations can be subjective - e.g. if a patient is having suicidal thoughts, you may consider breaking confidentiality depending on the situation.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 3

While working at your Saturday job in a shop you find that one of your colleagues has arrived at work smelling of alcohol. They appear to be intoxicated, and you know that they drove to work. What actions would you take?

GOOD ANSWER

- **Ease in the conversation.** Try to ease in calmly by asking how they are first. Ask them questions about what they've been doing recently. Look for signs such as lies and slurring of speech.
- **Send them home via public transport.** Tell the colleague it would be better if they take the day off and that they should go home, sober up and have a conversation in the evening somewhere more privately.
- **Address the driving issue.** The alcohol is an issue for someone working, but it is a much bigger issue for someone driving. If they are leaving, take the keys or offer to call them a taxi.
- **Report them.** Report them to higher managers.

BAD ANSWER

- **Jumping to an accusation.** If you jump in and accuse the person, they may become aggressive or defensive.
- **Telling them off only.** You cannot just tell them off and leave the situation. They are putting lives at risk by drink driving, and this needs to be addressed.
- **Dealing with it now.** It may be wise to send them home via taxi, and then deal with the situation later when they are in a sober and fit state.





MMI STATION 4



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Attitudes and Values (Part 1 of 2)

Tell me about a time when you have made a positive impact on someone else's life.





MMI STATION 4



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Attitudes and Values (Part 2 of 2)

Based on your work or voluntary experiences, what do you think are the challenges of delivering quality care to patients? How do you think demonstrating respect and dignity impacts on patients?



MMI STATION
SCENARIO

4

Tell me about a time when you have made a positive impact on someone else's life.

GOOD ANSWER

- **Structure.** Use the STARR method, or at the very least have some structure to your answer.
- **Describe your impact.** It could be motivating someone to do something, or consoling someone with a problem. Ideally the impact is more than just one conversation.

BAD ANSWER

- **Minimal impact.** e.g. my mum was upset, so I calmed her down and cooked her food. Compare this to supporting a friend each week going through a tough time!
- **Being too factual.** You need to show empathy and personality in this question. Show that you cared and helped because you wanted to.

Interview
Top Tip



Ideally you should have an answer to this kind of question prepared. Make sure to fill in your model answers in the Medic Mind handbook - it is worth preparing scenarios like 'describe a patient you met', 'describe how you've helped someone', 'discuss a scenario where you had a difficult task' and many more!



MMI STATION
SCENARIO

4

Based on your work or voluntary experiences, what do you think are the challenges of delivering quality care to patients? How do you think demonstrating respect and dignity impacts on patients?

Challenges to Delivering Quality Care

- **Difficult patients.** Patients can become frustrated and aggressive
- **NHS funding.** Lack of funding in the NHS affects quality of care
- **Constant learning.** Medicine is constantly changing, so its hard to keep up with the best treatments
- **Making mistakes.** Doctors inevitably make mistakes under pressure and when working fast.

Impact of Respect on Patients

- **Improves confidence.** Increases trust and confidence in doctors.
- **Patients are more open.** Patients are less likely to hold back and feel shy, which helps doctors get full information for a diagnosis.
- **Patients feel supported.** Patients see their doctor as a friend, especially in GP where there is continuity of care over the long-term.





MMI STATION 5



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Candidate as a Person (Part 1 of 3)

Studying medicine can be intense, so maintaining a work-life balance is important.
How do you relax and unwind?

PERSONALITY



DIFFICULTY: EASY





MMI STATION 5



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

PERSONALITY



Candidate as a Person (Part 2 of 3)

Medical students are selected from the best and the brightest students around the world. How will you cope with moving from an environment where you were one of the best students to one where everyone has a similar level of ability?

DIFFICULTY: EASY





MMI STATION 5



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Candidate as a Person (Part 3 of 3)

As a doctor you will have to break bad news and deal with things when they go wrong. How do you think you will cope with this emotionally?

PERSONALITY



DIFFICULTY: EASY



MMI STATION SCENARIO 5

Studying medicine can be intense, so maintaining a work-life balance is important. How do you relax and unwind?

GOOD ANSWER

- **Extracurricular activities.** Link in things like charity work, socialising with friends, reading and playing music instruments.
- **Explain how you maintain stress.** Touch on how you reduce stress, e.g. by keeping a diary, making lists, remaining organised.

BAD ANSWER

- **Simplistic activities.** Even though you might watch TV to unwind, don't mention this as the main thing. Try to be a bit cultural or academic!
- **Being overly academic.** If you say you read research papers on genetics as a hobby, this might sound odd. It could be true, but they are trying to find out that you're more than just an academic person.

Interview
Top Tip



Universities want someone more than just an academic person. They want someone who will come to university, interact with others, join in societies, show leadership and really contribute to the university community. So don't shy away from showing your personality.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 5 

Medical students are selected from the best and the brightest students around the world. How will you cope with moving from an environment where you were one of the best students to one where everyone has a similar level of ability?

GOOD ANSWER

- **Its a challenge!** e.g. it will push me to be even better and work harder! I like a challenge.
- **I can learn from others.** I would love to learn and bounce of others in discussions and tutorials.

BAD ANSWER

- **I will hate it.** Don't say that you'll absolutely hate it! Because thats the reality.
- **Show defeat.** At the same time, don't accept you'll be bottom of the class. Show some drive, passion and determination to be as good as you can possibly be!



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 5 

As a doctor you will have to break bad news and deal with things when they go wrong. How do you think you will cope with this emotionally?

GOOD ANSWER

- **Relate to the patient.** Show empathy for the patient, and don't be overly cold.
- **But not overly emotional.** There's a balance between being overly corporate and overly emotional. You have to keep an emotional distance to think properly and appropriately.
- **Reference work experience / volunteering.** Talk about your experience and how you've developed the skill of communication.

BAD ANSWER

- **I will struggle.** A surprising number of candidates will actually say that they will struggle with this as they are emotional people. Don't say this!
- **Being too corporate.** Some candidates say that they will be fully unemotional and will treat the patients as a scientific case. As a doctor you need a balance between personality and science - medicine is a holistic art!





MMI STATION 6



READING ⌚ 2m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

COMMUNICATION



Communication Skills

At this station you will meet a patient with a long-term illness. You are asked to engage them in conversation and find out about the nature of their illness, how it is managed, what effect it has on their daily life and how they think it is likely to affect their life in the future.

You are **NOT** expected to play the role of a medical student, doctor or other healthcare professional – you should be yourself! The patient will be scoring you on your ability to interact with them.

DIFFICULTY: HARD



EXAMINER'S CARD

MMI STATION SCENARIO 6

At this station you will meet a patient with a long-term illness. You are asked to engage them in conversation and find out about the nature of their illness, how it is managed, what effect it has on their daily life and how they think it is likely to affect their life in the future.

GOOD ANSWER

- **Don't jump in** - ask the questions some intro questions to ease the conversation in
- **Be calm** - stay calm and composed
- **Show empathy** - be empathetic
- **Use simple language** - speak in laymen terms rather than scientific language
- **React well** - react well to patient's emotion
- **Find out the information** - make sure to actually ask all of the things specified in the question.

BAD ANSWER

- **Overly emotional** - becoming too emotional in front of the patient
- **Lack of empathy** - presenting a corporate feel rather than caring and empathising
- **Not covering the information** - not asking all of the questions specified.

Interview
Top Tip



This station is linked to your ability to take a patient history. Taking a history is something a doctor does every day, and is an important part of medicine. Ask **open ended** questions to find out as much as possible.

COMMUNICATION



DIFFICULTY: HARD





MMI STATION 7



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Social Media (Part 1 of 3)

The use of social media websites such as Facebook is now widespread amongst the public, students and healthcare professionals. Is it appropriate for medical students and doctors to use such websites?





MMI STATION 7



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

Social Media (Part 2 of 3)

How would you advise a doctor who is wondering whether to accept one of their patients as a friend on a social media website such a Facebook? Why?





MMI STATION 7



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 5m

Social Media (Part 3 of 3)

Should medical students and doctors always declare their profession/professional status when interacting with others on a social media website? Why?



MMI STATION
SCENARIO 7

The use of social media websites such as Facebook is now widespread amongst the public, students and healthcare professionals. Is it appropriate for medical students and doctors to use such websites?

GOOD ANSWER

- **Yes it is.** Don't say that doctors and medical students cannot use social media! It is a good way to socialise with people and have a life outside of medicine.
- **Be careful of posting wrong things.** If a doctor posted something offensive, then his / her patients may lose trust. It can also reflect badly on the NHS.
- **Don't post about patients.** If a doctor posted about a patient, it is a breach of confidentiality. So they need to be careful with this.
- **Don't be-friend patients.** It isn't very appropriate for doctors to be-friend patients, even if they add the doctor on Facebook and insist on being friends. It is important to maintain a professional relationship.

BAD ANSWER

- **Dismissing social media.** Don't dismiss social media completely - many doctors and medical students use it, so you can tell it is allowed.
- **Failure to discuss patient interaction.** This question is less interested about doctors interacting amongst themselves, and more about doctor and patient interaction on social media.



EXAMINER'S CARD

MMI STATION
SCENARIO

7

How would you advise a doctor who is wondering whether to accept one of their patients as a friend on a social media website such a Facebook? Why?

GOOD ANSWER

- **He should not.** It is unprofessional of the doctor to accept the patient on Facebook, so he should not.
- **Explain to the patient.** It may be worth explaining the reasons to the patient at the next appointment. This will mean that the patient doesn't feel embarrassed or insecure.



MMI STATION
SCENARIO7 

Should medical students and doctors always declare their profession/professional status when interacting with others on a social media website? Why?

GOOD ANSWER

- **They don't have to.** Declaring your profession is a personal preference. Some people don't want to display this, so they should not be forced to.
- **They should not use their profession for leverage.** At the same time, it is worth discussing that doctors should not use their profession as leverage on social media - e.g. to impress members of the opposite sex, or for blackmail.





MMI STATION 8



READING ⌚ 1m

SPEAKING ⌚ 8m

PERSONALITY



Information Processing / Logic

At this station you will be asked to play a round of “20 Questions” to identify an object, creature, event or place that is known to the interviewer. To determine the answer, you must ask the interviewer a series of questions. The interviewer has been instructed to answer only YES or NO to your questions. You may ask up to 20 questions. All questions must be answerable by YES or NO. You are being scored on the logical approach to your questioning, and not on whether you identify the correct answer.

DIFFICULTY: EASY



EXAMINER'S CARD

MMI STATION SCENARIO 8

At this station you will be asked to play a round of “20 Questions” to identify an object, creature, event or place that is known to the interviewer. To determine the answer, you must ask the interviewer a series of questions. The interviewer has been instructed to answer only YES or NO to your questions. You may ask up to 20 questions. All questions must be answerable by YES or NO. You are being scored on the logical approach to your questioning, and not on whether you identify the correct answer.

GOOD ANSWER

- **Starting with open-ended questions.** Start with open ended questions to try to gain a general idea into the type of word.
- **Being logical in asking.** If you get a lead, don't jump ship and ask a random unrelated question.

BAD ANSWER

- **Making too many guesses.** Close to the end, don't start guessing too much. Try to keep as questions as open as possible until you know roughly what the word is.

Interview
Top Tip

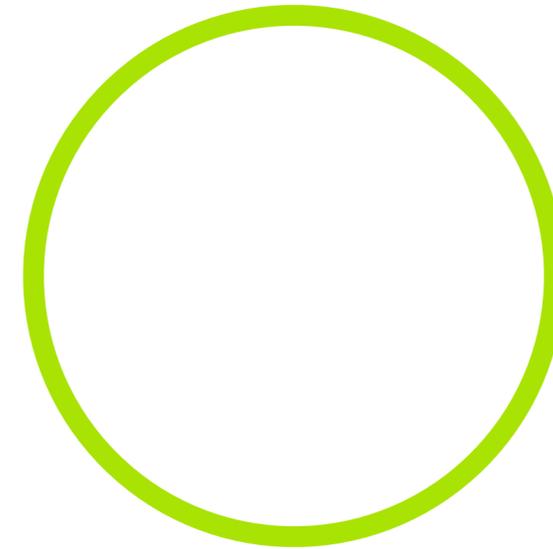


This station is linked to your ability to diagnose a patient. When diagnosing, you have to ask logical questions to find out what the problem is. In an appointment, you don't want to ask 100 questions and spend 30 minutes when you could have asked 20 questions and spent 5 minutes!





MMI Mock Sheffield





MMI Mock Sheffield
Complete

