

Topic 1: Describe and Reflect Upon Your Experience of Undergraduate Study

What was your degree/major? Why did you study this?

What do you think about the courses you took?

What is one thing you would change in your courses if you could?

What is one thing you would keep in the course?

What course did you enjoy the most as an undergraduate? Why?

If you were going to study as an undergraduate again what would you do differently?

Topic 2: Describe Your Research Using Clear and Simple Language

What is the general topic of your research?

What is your research project about?

Why are you interested in this area of research?

Why is research in your area important to society?

Can you give an example of a real-world application of your research?

What main challenges have you faced in research you have done until now?

What do you hope to achieve in your research?

Topic 3: Describe an event (or situation) where you were required to speak in English as a research postgraduate.

What was the event and where did it take place?

How long was the presentation?

Why did you attend it?

Were you able to prepare in advance for it? If so, in what way?

What did you talk about? Were you successful? Why/Why not?

Did the event require much conversation and/or exchange of information with others? Or was it mainly a solo presentation?

Topic 4: Describe Your Experience of Speaking or Presenting Your Research in English

When did you speak about your research/academic areas of interest?

Have you had much chance to speak about your research in English? If not, have you had opportunities to speak about academic topics in English?

What do you find most challenging about speaking about your research and/or academic topics in English?

What do you like about presenting your research in English?

What would you like to improve about your English presenting skills?

When do you speak? To whom do you speak? Where do you speak? Other details?

Any difficulties?

Topic 5: Describe why you chose to study at HKUST(GZ).

What did you hear about HKUST(GZ) before you came here? What attracted you to study at HKUST(GZ)?

What are your first impressions of the campus?

How does HKUST(GZ) compare to the university of your undergraduate studies?

What do you know about your research department at HKUST(GZ)? Which professors will

you be working with?

Aside from studies, what else do you hope to achieve at HKUST(GZ) or in Guangzhou?

Topic 6: Describe a Challenge You Faced in Your Studies or at Work

What was the challenge?

Why was it a challenge?

What did you do to overcome it?

Did you handle it well? Why?

What did you learn from this challenge?

Would you deal with it differently now?

Topic 7: Describe a Time When You Attended an Interview

What type of interview did you attend?

Did you do well? Why?

What did you learn from this interview?

Do you think presentation skills are important for interviews? Why?

How can these skills be improved?

Should universities teach students such skills?

What are your expectations for your experience at HKUST(GZ)?

How will you get along with your new classmates?