

Student Journalist Cheat Sheet

Goal: Get the bus driver to open up about what it's really like driving sports teams, bands, and activity groups to games and competitions. You want stories, challenges, and behind-the-scenes details most students don't know.

General Interview Tips

- Start with **easy questions** to get the driver comfortable.
 - Ask **follow-ups** like: "What was that like?" or "Can you tell me more about that moment?"
 - Listen closely — if they drop a fun or surprising detail (like kids falling asleep or equipment mishaps), dig deeper.
 - Avoid yes/no questions — go for **how, what, why, and tell me about...**
 - Keep it conversational and curious.
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Sample Opening Questions

- "What's it like driving the bus for teams or bands compared to a regular school route?"
 - "How do you prepare before a long trip?"
 - "What's the atmosphere like on the bus before and after games or competitions?"
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Digging Deeper (Follow-Up Questions)

- "What's the hardest part about driving those trips?"
 - "How do you stay alert during late-night drives?"
 - "What do students usually do on the bus ride — any traditions or funny habits?"
 - "Have you ever had to drive in tough weather or to faraway schools?"
 - "What's it like waiting for the team or band while they're competing?"
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Story-Getting Questions

- “Can you tell me about a time the ride was especially memorable?”
 - “What’s the funniest or strangest thing you’ve seen on a trip?”
 - “Has a student ever left something important behind on the bus?”
 - “Do you remember a trip where the energy on the bus was unforgettable?”
 - “What’s a moment that made you feel proud to be the bus driver for these students?”
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Closing Questions

- “What do you enjoy most about driving for activities and sports?”
- “What would you want students to know about your job that they don’t see?”
- “Do you feel like part of the team when you’re on these trips?”