



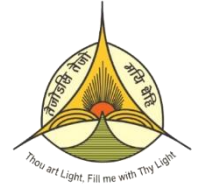
The Training & Development Division

The Placement Cell

Jesus and Mary College

presents

CAREER CATALYSTS 2.0



Group Discussion

Group discussion (GD) is a thorough method for determining a person's suitability and eligibility for things like admission, scholarships, jobs, etc. GD evaluates a person's overall personality within a group, including their thoughts, feelings, and behavior. The group members are given a subject to discuss. A number of the panelists watch the conversation as it is happening. They evaluate the candidates participating in the GD based on their observational abilities in the areas of intellect, social skills, leadership, and communication.

Importance of a GD

You need to have knowledge of the field and the ability to work in a group as a leader or member in order to be admitted to some universities, B- Schools, campus placements after graduation, or recruitment to a multinational company. The group discussion technique is a highly effective way to assess a candidate's capacity for collaboration.

What abilities are assessed during a GD?

- Your interpersonal communication skills
- How easily do you behave and interact with the other group members
- How open-minded you are
- How flexible or rigid you are in accepting the viewpoints of others in the group
- Your leadership skills
- Your analytical abilities
- Problem-solving & critical-thinking skills
- Time management skills
- Your skills at putting forth your ideas in an unbiased manner
- Social attitude and confidence

Take a look at an example of a typical group discussion.

Education is the only way to end poverty, was the topic given to a group for group discussion. Vishal, one of the candidates, was very combative when he presented the arguments in favor of the subject. He frequently interrupted rival candidates, hardly allowing them to finish their sentences. He spoke rudely and loudly in case anyone disagreed with him. His non-friendly body language was impolite. He acted in this

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manner to give the impression that he was the group leader who knew the most about the subject.

Do you agree that Vishal's actions were appropriate and that they would aid in his employment?

Do's of taking part in a GD

- Before you speak, think.
- If you don't know much about the topic, take cues from the discussion and add points that come to mind regarding the topic.
- If necessary, support your arguments with facts and figures.
- When expressing your opinions, be confident and gentle.
- Be sure to keep your points brief and avoid repetition
- When speaking, maintain composure.
- Listening to others is a crucial part of participating in the group discussion
- An attitude of respect for other people's opinions.
- Your posture and mannerisms should be relaxed.
- On occasion, the conversation might become adversarial. It is wise to step in and defuse the tension in such a situation. Your actions will demonstrate your leadership and problem-solving abilities.

Don'ts of taking part in a GD.

- If you are unfamiliar with the topic, don't start the conversation.
- Even if you are an expert on the subject, be careful not to overstate your knowledge.
- Don't speak during other members' speeches.
- If the majority of the other participants have opinions that differ from yours on the subject, don't let that cause you to change your mind.
- If a speaker before you made the points more succinctly than you did, don't be disheartened.
- Avoid posing pointless inquiries.
- Avoid introducing personal biases into the conversation about the subject.

Before the GD, keep these things in mind.

Nobody is aware of the GD's planned topic. Hence, it will be a good idea to keep yourself abreast with topics like:

1. Current Events.

It's important to be thorough when studying current affairs. For this, read newspapers frequently and watch television news. Know the current crises that the world is experiencing, the newest initiatives for development, the relationships between various nations, and other things of the sort.

2. Historic Subjects.

know something about both the history of your own country and the history of other nations. Although the topics may not be directly related to this field, having historical knowledge will enable you to cite examples and references as necessary.

3. Data Crunching

Acquaint yourself with crucial information. Making an impression on the assessors by including some data in your GD as needed will be a sure thing.

4. Sports, Art, Literature

Take every opportunity to read. possess a thorough knowledge of a variety of subjects. This can be resolved by watching documentaries on various subjects. Develop your vocabulary. This doesn't imply that you speak in dense or formal language, but it does imply that you will be able to comprehend the subject matter and contribute effectively.

Finally, but most importantly, imagine yourself succeeding in your endeavors, and you will.