Tips for Essay Questions on the Student Teaching
Personal Data Form

1. Briefly describe your experience with children and/or teens both in and out of the school environment.
   - Any field experiences
   - Related experiences with methods courses
   - Community service activities such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters
   - Recreational activities such as coaching

2. What are some of the motivating factors for your career choice of teaching?
   - Those who have influenced your decision, such as parents or former teachers
   - Positive experiences you’ve had in education

3. Briefly describe your competencies in technology.
   - Different operating systems, such as Mac or PC
   - Software you are familiar with
   - Internet experience, such as searching, email, creating web pages
   - Using technology in the classroom

4. What do you feel are the most important components in a successful classroom? How do you see yourself working with students of diverse backgrounds?
   - This question allows for the longest answer
   - Consider your philosophy of education
   - Discuss your areas of strength
   - Consider what you can learn when working in a multicultural classroom

5. List any honors, organizations, or extra-curricular activities during college and high school.
   - Academic honors
   - Participation in extra-curricular activities
   - Leadership experiences and opportunities

6. List previous work experiences.
   - Your responsibilities

7. What do you hope to gain from your student teaching experience?
   - Skills and abilities you want to strengthen
   - Improve your understanding

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