

The interview, decoded from 26 MBA Protocol client debriefs



AT A GLANCE **Scripted, steady, student-run**

WHO INTERVIEWS
A current student

FORMAT
On campus or virtual

LENGTH
30 minutes, to the minute

SIGNATURE
Your submitted quote

What to expect

One of the most predictable interviews we track. A student reads from a form, often says "I've seen your resume" and opens with your proudest accomplishment. Then come a listening story, goals and why MBA, your contribution to SOM and the quote you submitted. Follow-ups are usually a single clarifying question. Time for your own questions ranges from none to 15 minutes, so keep answers concise.

Questions to prepare

1. What are your post-MBA goals, and why an MBA?
2. What professional accomplishment are you most proud of, and why?
3. How will you contribute to the SOM community?
4. Tell me about a time a different perspective changed your view.
5. Why did you choose the quote you submitted?
6. Why Yale SOM?
7. What research have you done to confirm an MBA is right for you?
8. Is there anything else you'd like to share?
9. Tell me about a failure and what you learned.
10. Tell me about feedback you received and how you used it.

CURVEBALL

No resume walk-through

Interviewers often say "I've already read your resume" and start with your proudest accomplishment. Clients who expected the walk-through said it threw them. Build your context into that first story.

PREP TIPS

Signature SOM phrasing

"Recruiters tell us that SOM grads know when to speak and when to listen" sets up the listening question nearly word for word across years.

Did you drive it?

Follow-ups are rare but pointed: were you doing what was expected, or did you drive it? Know exactly what you personally did.

FROM INTERVIEW HERO

Show you can change your mind

SOM's listening question makes it easy to sound stubborn, or to have no view at all. Interview Hero's Confident Humility lets you own your judgment and your openness.

Chapter 3: Confident Humility and Enthusiasm • [Get it on Amazon](#)



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