

QUIZ FOR TECS EMPLOYMENT SITE



Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions honestly. The aim of this quiz is for candidates to personally evaluate their suitability for summer camp work. Please keep in mind that this quiz is for you benefit, so please answer them honestly. Your score will NOT affect your candidature.

- 1.) How important to you is having you own private living space and personal time?
(A) Very Important (B) I am used to sharing accommodation (C) Important, but can do without it for a short period.
- 2.) How confident are you of making a fool of yourself in front of others?
(A) Not very confident (B) No problem when I see others doing it (C) No problem! The kids love it and so do I.
- 3.) What is your work experience with children up to now?
(A) I've worked with them in a lot of different settings. (B) Some teaching experience and some monitor type work at school/university (C) Never worked with kids, but always wanted to.
- 4.) How have you reacted to long working hours in the past?
(A) Often done them, no problem for me. (B) I've worked long hours, but often become tired as a result (C) Usually not a problem as long as I enjoy the job.
- 5.) What way of working best suits you?
(A) One with lots of teamwork. (B) One where I can work on my own. (C) One where I have a mixture of both.
- 6.) What are you looking to get out of your summer?
(A) To live in Spain and improve my Spanish. (B) To have a new experience, learn a lot and make a lot of new friends. (C) To increase my experience working with children and to experience the challenges and rewards of a summer camp.
- 7.) As you search for a summer job, what are you looking at the most?
(A) The pay conditions and a flexible timetable. (B) A job that seems right for my personality and something that I will enjoy (despite long hours). (C) Something different to 9-5 work, I'm looking for new challenges.
- 8.) If you have some unexpected free time in the middle of a work day, what would you be most likely to frequently do?
(A) Spend it with my work colleagues. (B) Rest and chill out to prepare yourself for the rest of the day. (C) Get away from work and pass some quiet time on my own.
- 9.) When I was a kid I...
(A) Never thought about going to a summer/scout/girl guide (etc) camp. (B) Always wanted to go to camp but never had the chance. (C) I went almost every year to a camp of some sort.
- 10.) What best describes your work attitude?
(A) I am flexible when it comes to my responsibilities and I enjoy doing a variety of tasks. (B) I am a perfectionist and need to do things the way I plan. (C) I function well with a set routine, but I understand I have to adapt my way of doing things as new challenges come up.

Answers: put the letter and how many points you get (see below)

1.) _____ 2.) _____ 3.) _____ 4.) _____ 5.) _____ 6.) _____

7.) _____ 8.) _____ 9.) _____ 10.) _____

Total Score: _____

ANSWERS AND POINTS:

1.) A-1, B-5, C-3. Summer camp work involves sharing accommodation with other staff and in the case of monitor positions (and teachers when covering for monitors) with the campers. Personal space is limited as is free time due to long work hours of summer camp work and shared accommodation. The work best suits people who enjoy sharing and enjoy the camaraderie that comes from that experience.

2.) A-1, B-3, C-5. Summer camp is an environment which usually best suits extroverted people or ones who get easily inspired by the outgoing nature of others. Whereas not everyone who works on summer camp needs to be "the life of the party", you do certainly need to be willing to participate actively in activities and events.

3.) A-5, B-3, C-1. Anyone who works on a children's summer camp obviously has to love working with kids. Everyone can remember the teachers at school who did a great job and got on well with students. They were usually the ones who loved being around kids and when thinking of working on children's summer camp you need to be certain that you enjoy being with children. Obviously the more positive experience a person has of working with kids, the more likely they are to enjoy the job. This does not mean that someone who has no work experience with kids can't enjoy the work but it does mean you have to be sure that it is something you 100% want and are prepared to do, as while working with kids is fun, it is also very challenging and tiring.

4.) A-5, B-1, C-3. A reality of summer camp work is that the work hours are very long (definitely not 9-5) and unfortunately due to 24/7 task of looking after kids on camp, there is no changing this fact. Someone considering camp work needs to be certain they can work the long hours and remain positive, as your enjoyment of the summer depends on it.

5.) A-5, B-1, C-3. Teamwork is a massive part of summer camp work. Everything that you do or don't do affects another team player and enjoying being part of a very close team is very important. On camp your colleagues will often need your support and advice and you no doubt will need theirs. If you prefer to work on tasks on your own then the Camp Driver and IT positions may be more for you, but obviously they are still part of the greater summer team.

6.) A-1, B-3, C-5. When considering working for a residential summer camp, one should be 100% sure of what they are looking to get out of the experience. To be honest, when working in what is like an "English colony" in southern Spain and when working such long hours, it is hard to improve your Spanish or learn more about the culture. Of course there are always opportunities but if this is your principal reason for wanting to work in Spain, they probably best to look for a job with more local immersion and bit more free time. Camp of course has lots of positives, and the biggest of those is you will always have new experiences, even if you have worked on other camps you can be guaranteed that TECS summer camp will offer new challenges and experiences. The opportunities to develop professionally and personally are huge and those people who enjoy camp the most often remark how much more you develop these two areas on camp over 9-5 work.

7.) A-1, B-5, C-5. I guarantee that if someone is analysing pay when thinking of residential summer camp work, that no matter the pay it will never seem enough for the hours put in. Also no matter how high the pay, it will still be difficult to work the hours if you don't actually enjoy the work, as no residential summer camp offers 9-5 work. However, obviously camp offers so many other great things and the biggest and most important of these is that it really can be a job one loves, something that doesn't feel like work, if you have the right personality for it. The camaraderie and feeling of doing something that makes a difference and matters are wonderful aspects of summer camp work.

8.) A-3, B-3, C-3. There is no doubt about that those who usually enjoy summer camp the most and those people who love meeting new people and love being part of large team. Bonding with your work colleagues is one of the nicest parts of summer camp. Obviously you need to rest and take care of yourself when working such long days (this may mean spending time on your own or with your colleagues). Keep in mind, it is important to relax and recoup in a mixture of these means (not just one), as it will help you to keep up your energy throughout the length of the camps.

9.) A-1, B-3, C-5. One can say you don't really know camp life until you have been to one. This is not to say that someone who hasn't been on camp can't enjoy it but certainly someone embarking on camp work for the first time should be aware of the challenges of the job (long hours, sharing living space, intensity etc...) as well as the obvious advantages.

10.) A-3, B-1, C-5. Work with children is always unpredictable and summer camp work always a little chaotic, even though we do have a very organized timetable for campers and staff. Anyone who works on camp must be quality orientated and have a desire to do their best but never losing touch of the fact that adapting to a moment's needs is a vital quality in any intensive work environment. People who always give their all and adapt their ways of doing things as new challenges come up are usually the people who suit summer camp the most.

TOTAL SCORES:

TECS is well aware of the challenges and difficulties associated with working in a summer camp, and want to insure that applicants are as well. These questions are based on years of experience recruiting staff members and, in theory; the results reflect the types of candidates TECS is looking for.

50-35: Excellent candidate for TECS Summer camps

Those who scores score fall in this range, in theory, are ideal candidates for summer camp work. These people thrive in working with a team towards a common goal, offering the best possible experience for the campers. They do not shy away from hard work or challenges. These people are generally positive and enthusiastic when it comes to working with children and other staff and help keep the morale of others up.

34-20: Suitable candidate for TECS Summer Camp

Those who scored in this range might find some of the challenges of working on a summer camp to be a bit overwhelming. As said many times, camp work is not typical and requires dedication, motivation and a positive attitude. TECS welcomes applicants who seek personal challenges and new experiences.

19 and below: Is summer camp work for you?

Those who scored in this bracket may need to re-evaluate their rationale for considering a summer camp as a place of employment. One might be excellent with working with children in other environments; however a summer camp may not be the ideal atmosphere. Summer camp work is anything but easy, and it requires people who can make a full commitment to their responsibilities. However, TECS does focus on professional and personal development of staff, and any applicants who are interested are welcomed to apply.

