Practice Questions for
FIRST® Robotics Competition Judged Awards

At the event, all teams will have volunteer judges come by the pit to talk to students about their robot and outreach efforts. Here is a collection of questions that teams may want to practice answering prior to the event. These questions are provided to judges as a starting point, but judges are encouraged to ask other clarifying questions. Teams should also consider checking out the Best Practices for FIRST Robotics Competition Judged Awards sheet for more tips on interacting with judges.

Machine, Creativity, & Innovation Awards Questions

- What one component or control aspect of your robot has worked well (as originally designed) all season?
- If you could “snap” your fingers and change one component or control aspect on your robot, what would you change and why?
- What is your favorite feature on the robot?
- What feature are you most proud of this year?
- What is the most creative part on your robot?
- What features make your robot different/unique?
- Have you seen any other teams with a similar feature?
- Describe the aspects of your robot that are done autonomously.
- How effective has it been in match play?
- Tell me about the design process your team used to meet this year’s game challenges.
- How did you decide what was critical for being effective in this year’s competition?
- What features on your robot were specifically designed to give you a strategic advantage?
- What has been your biggest maintenance headache this season?
- What adjustments/upgrades have you made on your robot since you started match play?
- Is there anything you would like to tell us about your robot that we didn’t cover?

Team Attribute Award Questions

- How has FIRST changed you? Your team? Your school?
  - What team accomplishment makes you most proud?
- Outside of your team, who has given you the most help this year? How?
  - Who have you helped this season?
- What have been the top priorities for your team this year?
  - How did you establish them?
  - What has your team focused on improving this year?
- How has your team spread the FIRST Core Values in your school? In the community?
- Tell us how your team has demonstrated Gracious Professionalism® and or Coopertition®.
- Has your team done any community outreach?
  - Does your team have any involvement with FIRST® Tech Challenge or FIRST® LEGO® League?
- How does your team support FIRST Core Values?
- How does your team integrate imagery and branding?
- How does your team find and “Thank” your sponsors/supporters?
- How does your team keep students, mentors, and sponsors actively engaged?
- How does your team celebrate success and document lessons learned to prevent repeating mistakes?
- How does your team budget for the season?
  - Does your team ensure there’s funds/resources available for future seasons?
- Do you have a succession plan? Can you describe it?
- Did your team discuss potential risks for the season? Describe your contingency plan.
- How do you ensure that your team is following correct safety practices?
- Is there anything you would like to tell us about your team that we didn’t cover?