

CONVERSATION GUIDE

Questions in this study focus on preparation versus recent experiences of academic job-seekers in English and related fields. This question guide will serve as a starting place for semi-structured discussion of these experiences.

1. What were your main goals for the academic job market cycle(s) when you applied for jobs? For example, what kinds of roles and institutions did you consider or not consider?
2. What kind of preparation, formal and informal, did you receive from your graduate program for the job market?
 - a. When did this preparation start?
3. How many jobs in total did you apply to? What were the results of those applications?
 - a. (For example, you may list how many first- and second-round interviews you were invited to; you may also discuss any offers you received.)
4. What did you feel well-prepared for on the job market based on the preparation you got from your graduate program [and, if applicable, from the JETS series]?
5. What do you feel this preparation missed and should have covered in terms of the job market? What surprised you?
6. What would you want mentors of graduate students to know about the job market?
7. What would you want future academic job-seekers to know about the job market?