

# March Interviews

Interviewee: Sofia

Capacity: Tournament Participant

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**Hi Sofia. Are you speaking? We can't hear you.**

I just said howdy.

**Okay, good. How are you doing today?**

Good, I love your accent.

**Oh, really!**

It's so pretty and majestic.

**Thank you. So today, you are here to be interviewed about the recent tournament that occurred on our server. Could you please present yourself and say what team you were on?**

I was in Team Golden Closet. I believe that is Jungkook's team.

**Oh, that is nice. So, this was your first experience with 아미 KSG Tournaments?**

Yes.

**And what did you think about the tournament?**

I liked it. It went longer than I expected, but it was really fun. I would call it challenging.

**How long were you expecting it to be?**

I don't know. An hour? I don't know.

**Yeah, usually in Nae's events, they run for a little bit longer than an hour, you'll start to realize.**

Yeah. [laughs]



**So, what were the reasons why you chose to participate in the tournament?**

Curiosity, for sure. I never participated in one of the tournaments. Plus, I love Family Feud. I am not sure if you know, but Google has a Google Feud version and it's fun to be able to see people's popular answers. Sometimes, they're ridiculous.

**It does? I've never heard of that before.**

It's cool.

**Were there any concerns you had that perhaps were going to withhold you from participating, if that makes sense?**

The time, probably, and then I kind of knew that there were going to be BTS questions or K-Pop questions that I wasn't going to be aware of because I don't follow many K-Pop groups. However, I knew other people on my team were going to know that and then, as for Korean Language questions, there were probably going to be some that I didn't know, but I felt pretty confident in those categories. So, probably just timing.

**Okay, fair enough. Since this is your first experience of KSG Tournaments, what expectations, if any, did you have going into the tournament?**

I did not have any expectations. I just went with the flow. I know that doesn't answer the question. I don't know, maybe this is specific to the type of Family Feud. I think a lot of people on my team were expecting it to be based on popularity, which in hindsight, doesn't seem like it's possible because it would have to have surveyed a bunch of people and then gotten those answers. So we were surprised when a lot of the most popular voices weren't on the board because they were deemed too obvious.

**Would you say that made it more interesting, like having Nae's answers, or would you have preferred the popular answers?**

I do love Family Feud. I think I would have preferred the most obvious answers that would have made it a lot easier. But I do like having to guess popular answers because I know what I might deem, obvious to me but isn't obvious to everyone. Then there were some popular answers on there, so it wasn't like they were completely void.



**Oh, yeah, definitely. So I want to ask you about the preparation side of the tournament. I believe before the tournament, Nae gave some instructions regarding the kinds of questions. How did your team prepare for the tournament? Did you perhaps have any strategies going into it?**

Yeah, so we initially talked about what we all felt comfortable with within the categories, and then I suggested everybody to just rank the order in which they felt comfortable with, in the categories so that we could choose leaders for each one. I think somebody suggested we have kind of one main go-to person for each category. And so I ranked food first because I cook a lot of Korean food, and I ended up becoming the number one person for food because no one else ranked number one. And I think we had two people for language. I don't know if that's accurate, but we basically had everybody in a leadership position except for culture. I think that's the one that we didn't really have anybody, so we prepared that way. And then I know Erin made this amazing, beautiful document for animals, and that came in really handy as well as they did, people, places, animals, and things, whatever that category was, that was cool. We all kind of did a bit of research on our own.

**Okay, that makes sense. So did you do any team preparations or was it purely just individual, other than obviously ranking?**

I don't think so. I don't remember. I think we maybe just mentally communicated through something, being like, "Hey, this is what we're going to do." This is kind of talking through the process of how we want to handle it. I think there was some talk about Fast Money, but we didn't really develop any specific strategies other than that. Oh, we did choose our representative as Sous because I think Sous and Kim were the only people previously that participated in the tournament. But, we wanted to choose somebody who has already participated in a tournament that kind of knew how a tournament ran, and we only had two choices. And then Kim said that Sous was going to do that.

**Okay, so you mentioned like, you all did your own individual preparations. What did you specifically do to prepare?**

I Googled two main things. One was common Korean foods, common Korean appetizers, and I already knew most of them, I just didn't know the Korean names, and I actually wrote them up in the chat. I was like, 'Oh, we could just



use this as a reference later.' And then I think someone else told me that I wasn't supposed to do that so I deleted all my comments, but I still knew them. And then I Googled all the kimchi recipes. I know there was going to be one question that asked, 'What are all the foods that are made out of kimchi?' And I knew Kimchi pancakes and Kimchi fried rice were going to be on there, so I mentally prepared for that one.

**Yeah, I think that question was kind of foreseeable for a lot of people, but who knows? I don't think everyone prepared necessarily. Okay, so did you watch the video with the explanation?**

Yes, I have. I actually watched it twice. Once sleep-deprived and once less sleep-deprived.

**Would you say it was helpful?**

Yeah, I definitely think it was. Going into it, I knew everything that was going to happen, but then hearing all the explanations made a lot of sense. I still didn't really understand how Fast Money worked after watching it. But one of the things I did like about the video is as I was hearing about the wager for a fourth guess, I was like, oh, you could just wager in the very beginning when you don't have any points, and then on the next slide, Nae goes like, you have to have at least have this amount of points to wager. And I was like, you can't take advantage of that loophole. So I was grateful that she explained the loophole that I had immediately thought of.

**So now that you have attended the tournament, do you think if given a chance, you would like to be the representative?**

If I'm on my desktop, yes, if I'm on my laptop, no, because while I was attending it on my laptop, my computer was dying. So on my desktop, I have fast internet. It's all fast and clicking. Well, if it's speed based, if it's not speed based, then it wouldn't really matter. But yeah, I think I would be the representative depending on the situation. However, if somebody else wants to, I'll just give it to them.

**On the day of the tournament, how were you feeling towards the tournament? Like physically or emotionally?**



I don't remember. I think I was excited for the tournament because I know I brought it up to my significant other. I was like, "I'm participating in the tournament." He was like, "What tournament?" I was like, "From the Korean server." But, yeah, I think I was excited, but I also didn't know what to expect. Moreover I had a lot of school work, so I was like, I'm going to do this, and then I immediately have to do school work, so I hope it doesn't run too long, but I was excited.

**Okay. Did Golden Closet have individual roles for each team member? See, I know you divided them in between, but during the tournament, did you stick with them?**

We didn't really use them. Whenever a food question came up, I would just start spamming. Or when we were talking about animals, Erin definitely became a lot more proactive, but it wasn't like someone's choices were valued more than anybody else because we would all say things and we had no way of knowing who was right, so we didn't really stick with them. That kind of gave us something to focus on for research. So we had a little bit more background going into it, but during the tournament, it was kind of free for all.

**Yeah, that makes sense. Could you tell us about how the group atmosphere and interactions were during the two minutes that you had before responding?**

They always started off spamming the keys and just typing as much as we could think of. And then as the two minutes would draw to a close, we would start looking through everything we just said and then picking out a bunch that we actually wanted to choose, which would make it easier for who our representative was. Our representative kind of changed a little bit as the tournament went on. But, yeah, we would usually go like, okay, we want to do this, this, and this. And we would set like four or five options, and then if anybody had any calls with it, they would say, "I think these are better. You should say this one first because it's more likely to be correct." So we would narrow it down after the screaming match that preceded it, but it worked well, I think.

**Is Golden Closet your original group that you were given upon entering the server, or did you just join them for this tournament?**

It is the original group.



**Does your group interact much outside the tournament environment?**

I don't think so. I think when I first joined the server, I was like, "Hey, Golden Closeters, what is this chat for?" Because I was really confused, and then they kind of explained it and they explained how tournaments work, and I was like: "Okay, I understand like 2% more about the server now."

**As you don't normally interact, would you say there was any awkwardness or adjustment needed?**

I think I knew most of the members. I had been in the public study chat with Erin and Rachel before. I knew Sous from Quiz Activity. I kind of knew names here and there. I was definitely intimidated by Kim because of one interaction I had with them. But I think that actually was a good thing to be participating in a tournament and get over my fears.

**Okay, so during the games, no teams actually wagered. How come the Golden Closet decided not to wager?**

Because it was very difficult for us to get points in the first place, and more times than not, when we did guess, we were wrong. So we didn't wager for two main reasons. One, because if we lost the points, that would set us behind significantly. And second of all, we were never really that confident about any answer because even if we knew a zombie movie right, like *Train to Busan*, which actually was on there, but if we were super confident that's a good zombie movie, we had no way of knowing that they decided to put that on there. We can judge it based on things like, "Oh, we know this is a popular one but would Nae use this? We don't know."

**Yeah, Nae is kind of like the abyss. You never know what she's going to do.**

Yeah, and I think that's why a lot of people probably miss wagers because you never know.

**Definitely, So what about *Fast Money*? Who was the representative for that?**

I think Kim was still our representative or did Kim leave and somebody else take over? I don't remember. We had Sous and then we had Kim and then I don't remember. I think we just had Kim. No, somebody else did. Was it Erin? Was it Erin? I think it might have been Erin. I don't remember.



**I think it was Erin.**

That sounds right. I don't remember.

**It doesn't matter too much, hopefully.**

It was like three days ago.

**So, unfortunately, Golden Closet didn't win this time but how did you feel about the final tournament outcome?**

I think it was fun. I was glad we weren't in last place. I was really surprised by Hopeworld. They were doing really well and they would get a bunch of answers in a batch. I was like, they're going to win. They were like, "We're going to win." They had confidence and everything. And so I was really surprised that Genius Lab, out of nowhere, just won but I also am not that competitive so I don't care. But I was happy that we weren't last.

**Yeah, Hope World, we were confident but we were proven very wrong.**

**Soora: We were very confident.**

I thought you guys were going to win. Your confidence definitely convinced me.

**You should have seen the private studio group chat.**

We just didn't want to lose, I think that was our thing. We wanted to win, obviously, but we weren't like, if we don't win, it would be the end of the world, it was more like ' Let's just not lose.'

**Yeah, definitely. I think we took it well, but we were too competitive in the beginning. We said, "Oh, yeah, we need to win. We need to keep our titles."**

But the higher you are, the deeper you have to fall.

**Yeah, and we fell straight to the bottom.**

**So what do you think about the whole rewards and penalties featured in the tournament?**

I don't really know what happened to the hearts because they were a thing, and then they kind of stopped being a thing halfway through the tournament. And the thing is, at the very beginning, we were like, "Oh, yeah, we might not



have gotten this question, but at least we didn't lose 100 hearts from getting three wrong in a row" and these hearts all of a sudden didn't really matter. And I think we were confused and someone on my team thought that hearts and points were the same things. I think that part was a little confusing, but the point system was really nice because it was quite clear. Although it would have been nice to have an active tally because you know what? I don't know if anybody actually watches Family Feud but I don't. But assuming Family Feuds, like they have an ongoing score, I don't know how that would be implemented. But that would just be nice to have. I do really like how they showed every time you got X.

**Yeah, definitely something to keep in mind in the future if we do end up doing a Family Feud again.**

**So what did you think of the tournament host, Nae?**

I love Nae. She's great. She has this thing that she does where she makes an evil laugh and it's terrifying, but I know she's just having fun messing with us. In the beginning, we didn't know that the most popular options weren't going to be on there, and I think she had fun with that. But honestly, I think she's the best person to host it because I think she knows several things about it, from what I've seen.

**100%.**

**So what would you say is a memory you made during the tournament that you would like to share?**

Adopting Rachel to the Golden Closet. When her whole team didn't show up, I don't know what happened in that situation, but I was like, the more people we have, the better our odds. Let's take Rachel. So I just yelled in the chat, I was like: "Rachel, join Golden Closet" in all caps. And she was like, I'll join the Golden Closet. And I'm so sorry to think, but I kind of kidnapped Rachel in that instance. But it was nice. We loved having her. Even though she wasn't an original member, she was a very good honorary member.

**So since the Korean Language was one of the categories of the game, do you think your Korean level had an impact on the questions and in your active participation in the tournament?**





I know one of the questions was about the word you. That one was kind of confusing, I knew 네가, but beyond that, I knew big ones, but I was like, I really don't know. But outside of that question, there were some that were definitely impactful while others weren't as much, like the Sino-Korean counters, but that one was pretty easy because I knew the counters were actually of my level. I recently was reviewing them. So yes and no.

**Okay, that's good. Would you say the tournament impacted or had an effect on your personal learning?**

Probably not. Well, it depends on what you mean by impact. Did my ability to understand and utilize Korean in my daily life improve? No.

Did it at all have an effect on my desire to learn Korean also? No, because I already have a very strong desire to learn and it's one of the things that I got to do for fun, in regards to Korean, I don't really think it had an effect, but I don't think that's a bad thing.

**Yeah, no, definitely not. I think that makes a lot of sense.**

**Okay, so we're coming up to our final few questions now. What improvements to the tournament would you suggest? Like in terms of organization, hosting, etcetera?**

I think the process is very good the way it is. I think Nae was surprised by the fact that it ran as long as it did. So I don't really know how you avoid that necessarily. But I guess trying the best to create a specific time frame would be great. The issue was that it ran for so long that a lot of members had to leave because either it was really late at night or they had other obligations to fulfill in their day to day lives. So I think deciding on a particular time and then trying to stick to the time schedule would be nice. Other than that, I had another thing which I don't remember.

**Okay. Do you have perhaps any suggestions or recommendations for future tournament topics or themes?**

I don't know if it's like a tournament, but it might be fun to do a play-through of those games where you have to select between a bunch of options, and depending on the options you choose, you get a different outcome or you try to survive the game. So playing one of those would be really fun. But if it was in Korean, then that could exclude people that aren't really at the level where



they can understand the game. Doing one of those play-throughs and seeing whose rides could be fun. It's an idea that came up in the last 10 seconds. I don't know how good it is or if it is practically possible to execute.

**I think I get what you mean. It just all depends on inclusivity, I guess.**

Yeah, or you could do it. I don't know what the actual game is, but it's like an online version of Pictionary. The issue is with inclusivity, like how can you manage it so that people who are relatively new to the server or still at a beginner level can still enjoy it? Because you can also split it up by group, which makes it harder for moderators. But if you're to do Pictionary, which we kind of did in an AFLclub I was a part of, you had to split up by colors. You had an easy, medium or advanced level and then depending on that, you had different rules on how to do it. Someone would draw something, and the other person would write it in Korean, and then they would pass and draw something. You kind of make your own broken telephone Korean.

**Will you join the next tournament? If given the chance?**

Yeah, if it lines up with my schedule. I think it'd be fun.

**Yeah, definitely. Before we end the interview, the final question is, could you please rate the tournament of ten?**

What would be zero and ten on this scale?

**So zero is like, the worst. Ten is the best.**

Okay. That's compared to what, though.

**What do you mean?**

Like the best tournament possible hosted within ㅇㅈㅍ KSG's abilities or like, the best in the world?

**I'd say within ㅇㅈㅍ KSG's abilities.**

Okay, I'd say like an 8. I think there's definitely oh- Oh, I remember the second feedback thing I had. During the tournament people were told to decide whether or not we wanted a channel (for the team to have a conversation in). Just that one, I think if it was decided for us it would have been nice. But also we had 40 minutes leading into the actual starting(the



tournament). It's just these two things that make it an 8. Just because I think we had a very long introduction.

**Okay. Yeah, that works out. I think if we have more, I guess we just left it towards the video, perhaps, and maybe just for any questions. It would have been a lot quicker.**

**Anyway, thank you so much for your time, Sofia. We hope you have a fantastic year on and off the server, and we hope to see you in the next tournament.**

Thank you. I'll see you in the next tournament too.

**Well, see you. Bye Sofia.**

Bye.

