



COMMON INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

WHY PRACTICE QUESTIONS?

One of the top attributes employers seek is the ability to communicate. If you anticipate questions, and practice responses, you will project an image of being articulate and prepared. Below are examples of questions that are commonly asked. Practicing these questions is a good place to start, but keep in mind that you could be asked questions that are not on this list. You also want to make sure you can confidently answer questions pertaining to your own skills and experience. To further prepare for your interview, make sure to review our “Interview Preparation Guide.”

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

- Tell me about yourself.
- What do you know about our organization?
- What interests you most about this position?
- How does this job compare with others you have applied for?
- Why do you want to work here?
- What criteria are you using to evaluate the organization for which you hope to work?
- What experience do you have that has prepared you for this position?
- How has your education helped you to prepare for this position?
- What are your strengths? Weaknesses?
- What would your last supervisor say about you?
- Describe yourself in three words.
- Why did you choose your major?
- Why did you choose this career?
- Have you changed your major field of interest while in college? Why?
- What courses did you like best? Least? Why?
- If you were starting college all over again, what courses would you take?
- What course did you find the most difficult and why?
- Do you think your grades are a good indication of your academic achievement? Do you feel you have done the best scholastic work of which you are capable?
- Do you think grades should be considered by employers? Why or why not?
- Do you have plans for an advanced degree?
- Describe your most rewarding college experience.
- What are your greatest accomplishments?
- What is your greatest failure? What did you learn from it?
- What motivates you?
- Describe your value system.
- What have you learned from the jobs you have held?
- In your last job, what were some of the things you spent most of your time on and why?
- What makes this job different from your current/last one?
- What two/three things are most important to you in your job?

- What did you like/dislike about your last job?
- In what kind of work environment are you most comfortable?
- What kind of salary do you expect?
- What are your long-term and short-term goals and objectives? How are you preparing yourself to achieve them?
- Where do you want to be in five years? Ten years?
- How do you organize and plan for major projects?
- Tell me about a time you had to handle multiple responsibilities. How did you organize the work you needed to do?
- What do you do to relieve stress?
- Give me an example of a time you have had to work under pressure?
- In what college activities have you participated? Which did you enjoy the most? For what reason?
- Do you think your extracurricular activities were worth the time you devoted to them? Why?
- When have you shown leadership?
- Tell me about a time you have taken initiative.
- Describe a difficult problem you've had to deal with and what was the outcome?
- How would you describe yourself in terms of your ability to work as a member of a team?
- How do you spend your spare time? What are your hobbies?
- What was the last book you read (or movie you saw)? How did it affect you?
- How long have you been looking for another position?
- Have you ever been fired? Why were you fired?
- Have you ever been asked to resign?
- Were you ever dismissed from your job for a reason that seemed unjustified?
- Are you willing to relocate?
- Why should I hire you?