

Typical Interview Questions

Asked by Employer:

1. Basic Interview Questions

- a. Tell me about yourself.
- b. What are your strengths and weaknesses? *(or What are three positive things your last boss would say about you? What negative thing would your last boss say about you?)*
- c. Why do you want this job?
- d. What's your ideal company?
- e. What attracted you to this company?
- f. Why should we hire you?
- g. What did you like least about your last job?
- h. When were you most satisfied in your job?
- i. What can you do for us that other candidates can't?
- j. What were the responsibilities of your last position?
- k. Why are you leaving your present job?
- l. What do you know about this industry?
- m. What do you know about our company?

2. Behavioral Interview Questions *(tell me about a time when...)*:

- a. Give me an example of a time you felt you went above and beyond the call of duty at work.
- b. Can you describe a time when your work was criticized and how did you handle it?
- c. Have you ever been on a team where someone was not pulling their own weight? How did you handle it?
- d. Tell me about a time when you had to give someone difficult feedback. How did you handle it?
- e. What is your greatest failure, and what did you learn from it?
- f. What irritates you about other people, and how do you deal with it?
- g. If I were your supervisor and asked you to do something that you disagreed with, what would you do?
- h. What was the most difficult period in your life, and how did you deal with it?
- i. Give me an example of a time you did something wrong. How did you handle it?
- j. Tell me about a time where you had to deal with conflict on the job.
- k. What's the most difficult decision you've made in the last two years and how did you come to that decision?
- l. Describe how you would handle a situation if you were required to finish multiple tasks by the end of the day, and there was no conceivable way that you could finish them.

3. Career Development Questions:

- a. What are you looking for in terms of career development?
- b. Where would you like to be in your career five years from now?
- c. How do you want to improve yourself in the next year?
- d. What kind of goals would you have in mind if you got this job?

4. More About You:

- a. How would you describe your work style?
- b. What would be your ideal working situation?
- c. What techniques and tools do you use to keep yourself organized?
- d. If you had to choose one, would you consider yourself a big-picture person or a detail-oriented person?
- e. Tell me about your proudest achievement.
- f. What kind of personality do you work best with and why?
- g. What is your personal mission statement?
- h. What three character traits would your friends use to describe you?
- i. If you were interviewing someone for this position, what traits would you look for?
- j. List five words that describe your character.
- k. Who has impacted you most in your career and how?
- l. What is your greatest fear?
- m. What is your biggest regret and why?
- n. What's the most important thing you learned in school?
- o. Why did you choose your major?
- p. What is your greatest achievement outside of work?
- q. What are the qualities of a good leader? A bad leader?
- r. There's no right or wrong answer, but if you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be?
- s. What's the last book you read?
- t. What would you do if you won the lottery?
- u. Who are your heroes?
- v. What do you do in your spare time?
- w. What is your favorite memory from childhood?

5. Brainteaser Questions (*typically no right answer - looking for creativity and quick thinking*):

- a. How would you weigh a plane without scales?
- b. Tell me 10 ways to use a pencil other than writing.
- c. Sell me this pencil.
- d. If you were an animal, which one would you want to be?
- e. If you could choose one superhero power, what would it be and why?
- f. If you could get rid of any one of the US states, which one would you get rid of and why?

With your eyes closed, tell me step-by-step how to tie my shoes.