

There are many different types of questions that interviewers may ask during an interview. Most questions will revolve around your career goals, work ethic, and skill-related and behavior-based topics. Anticipate and practice answering potential questions prior to your interview to better prepare yourself.

Common Interview Questions

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Why are you interested in this position? Why do you want to work for our company?
3. Describe your experience related to this position.
4. What are your strengths and weaknesses? (What are your areas of improvement?)
5. How has your education prepared you for this position? Why did you choose your college major?
6. Where do you see yourself in five years? What are your short- and long-term goals?
7. In what ways do you think you can make a contribution to our organization?
8. How do you like to be supervised? Describe your supervision/management style.
9. What do you consider your greatest accomplishment and why?
10. How would you (or a friend/colleague/professor) describe yourself?
11. What three things are most important to you in your job?
12. What motivates you?
13. When you work on a team project, what role do you most often take?
14. Why should I hire you? What distinguishes you from other candidates?
15. What are your salary expectations?

Behavior-Based Questions

Behavior-based questions are intended to help employers understand your likely future behavior given specific experiences from your past. When answering these types of questions, make sure to utilize the **STAR method** (Situation, Task, Action, Result) to fully answer the question.

1. Tell me about a difficult decision you've made in the past year.
2. Describe how you solved a difficult problem.
3. Explain a time when you had to show initiative.
4. Describe an example where you worked as part of a team.
5. Tell us about a time you had to organize and plan a project.
6. Describe a time when you set a goal and were able to achieve it.
7. Tell me about a time when you had to influence someone's opinion.
8. Describe a time when you had to conform to a policy with which you did not agree.
9. What is your typical way of dealing with conflict? Give an example.
10. Give an example of a time when you failed to meet a deadline.

Prepare Questions to Ask Interviewer

Most interviewers will give you time at the end of the interview to ask questions regarding the position or company. Have 3-5 questions prepared to ask during this time. Remember, you are also trying to see if the position and company will be a good fit for you. Sample questions include:

1. What brought you to this company? What do you enjoy most about the company?
2. What were some major contributions made by individuals who have held this job previously?
3. What are some examples of problems/tasks I will be expected to address?
4. What type of training and development opportunities do you provide?
5. Are there any new initiatives or projects within the company/department?