











# **Prospective Interview Questions from Employers**

Before you begin interviewing, think about these questions and possible responses and discuss them with a career consultant. Conduct mock interviews and be sure you can communicate clear, unrehearsed answers to interviewers. This is **NOT** an exhaustive list of interview questions. You should also expect questions relevant to your field/industry.

## **PERSONAL**

- 1. Tell me about yourself.
- 2. What are your hobbies?
- 3. Why did you choose to interview with our organization?
- 4. Describe your ideal job.
- 5. What can you offer us?
- 6. What do you consider to be your greatest strengths?
- 7. Can you name some weaknesses?
- 8. Define success. Failure.
- 9. Have you ever had any failures? What did you learn from them?
- 10. Of which three accomplishments are you most proud?
- 11. Who are your role models? Why?
- 12. How does your college education or work experience relate to this job?
- 13. What motivates you most in a job?
- 14. Have you had difficulty getting along with a former professor/supervisor/co-worker and how did you handle it?
- 15. Have you ever spoken before a group of people? How large?
- 16. Why should we hire you rather than another candidate?
- 17. What do you know about our organization (products or services)?
- 18. Where do you want to be in three years? five years? ten years?
- 19. Do you plan to return to school for further education?

#### **EDUCATION**

- 1. Why did you choose your major?
- 2. Why did you choose to attend your college or university?
- 3. Do you think you received a good education? In what ways?
- 4. In which campus activities did you participate?
- 5. Which classes in your major did you like best? Least? Why?
- 6. Which elective classes did you like best? Least? Why?
- 7. If you were to start over, what would you change about your education?
- 8. Do your grades accurately reflect your ability? Why or why not?

### **EXPERIENCE**

- 1. What job-related skills have you developed?
- 2. Did you work while going to school? In what positions?
- 3. What did you learn from these work experiences?
- 4. What did you enjoy most about your last employment? Least?
- 5. Have you ever quit a job? Why?
- 6. Give an example of a situation in which you provided a solution to an employer.
- 7. Give an example of a time in which you worked under deadline pressure.













- 8. Have you ever done any volunteer work? What kind?
- 9. How do you think a former supervisor would describe your work?

#### CAREER GOALS

- 1. Do you prefer to work under supervision or on your own?
- 2. What kind of boss do you prefer?
- 3. Would you be successful working with a team?
- 4. Do you prefer large or small organizations? Why?
- 5. How do you feel about working in a structured environment?
- 6. Are you able to work on several assignments at once?
- 7. How do you feel about working overtime?
- 8. How do you feel about travel? The possibility of relocating?
- 9. Are you willing to work flextime?

## BEHAVIORAL INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. Tell me about yourself as it relates to your career goals?
- 2. Describe a situation in which you were required to "think on your feet."
- 3. What are the essential elements of effective problem solving?
- 4. Tell me about a recent problem you encountered and how you came to the solution.
- 5. Tell me about the last time you went the "extra mile" to do something because it was needed, even though it was not your responsibility.
- 6. How do you prioritize your workload?
- 7. Tell me about a difficult person you've worked with and how you approached this person.
- 8. What three words would your peers use to describe you and why?
- 9. In what instances is written communication better than verbal communication?
- 10. How do you manage your time when dealing with conflicting priorities?
- 11. Tell me about your most rewarding experience.
- 12. Why should we hire you?
- 13. What are your strengths? Weaknesses?