

# **Common Interview Questions**

During job interviews, you can expect a range of common questions designed to assess your qualifications, experience, and fit for the position.

Here are some frequently asked interview questions:

# 1. Tell me about yourself.

This is often an open-ended question, where you can provide a brief summary of your background, experience, and why you're a good fit for the job.

# 2. What do you know about our products/services/industry?

Showcase your research and understanding of the company's offerings and the broader industry. Prepare by exploring the company's website, examining their products, looking at reviews and checking out recent news articles.

# 3. Why do you want to work for this company?

Demonstrate your understanding of the company and explain how your skills and goals align with their mission and culture. It is a great idea to mention something that has occurred recently to the company that you were impressed with.

# 4. What are your strengths and weaknesses?

Highlight your strengths relevant to the position and address weaknesses by showing how you've worked to improve them. When sharing weaknesses, choose a weakness that is nonessential to the job functions, and always highlight how you are working on that weakness. Example: being a perfectionist. This could mean you take too much time on finished products that are not "perfect" in your opinion. You are working on this "weakness" by consulting a senior member, and trusting their opinion if they tell you the product is finished.

# 5. Can you describe your experience in [specific skill or area]?"

Provide specific examples from your past experiences that showcase your skills and abilities. Highlight accomplishments and triumphs in the workplace.



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# 6. Tell me about a challenging situation you've faced at work and how you handled it.

Use the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) to explain the situation, your task, the actions you took, and the results. Challenging situations can range from conflict, miscommunication, scope management, or customer complaints. Be sure that the situation you choose portrays you as a professional.

# 7. Where do you see yourself in [X] years?

Discuss your career goals and how this role fits into your long-term plans. Many companies are looking for a long-term commitment (unless this is a temporary contract position).

# 8. How do you handle stress and pressure?

Share strategies you use to stay focused, organized, and calm in high-pressure situations.

# 9. What interests you about this role?

Explain how the responsibilities and challenges of the position align with your skills and interests. This information can be pulled directly from the job advertisement.

#### 10. Describe a time when you worked in a team.

Share a teamwork experience, highlighting your contributions and ability to collaborate effectively.

# 11. How do you stay current in your field or industry?

Discuss your commitment to ongoing learning and professional development. Whether it be seminars, articles, or advanced reading, there are multiple streams to continue your education in your field.

# 12. Why should we hire you for this position? / Why are you the best candidate for this role?

Highlight your skills, experience, and what makes you a unique and strong candidate for the job. Share about yourself in a truthful manner.

# 13. Do you have any questions for us?

Prepare thoughtful questions about the company, team, or role to show your genuine interest and initiative. A series of possible questions can be found on the Sector Council section of the MTA website.

Tailor your responses to the specific job and company you're interviewing for and use these common questions as a foundation for practicing your answers and preparing for your interview.



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