free2succeed Job Center

Sample Interview Questions

Use this worksheet to compose answers to some of the most commonly asked interview questions

Q. Tell me about yourself.

Q. What are your strengths?

Q. What are your weaknesses?

Q. Why do you want to work for us?

Q. Why should I hire you?

Q. How do you handle pressure and stress?

Q. Where do you see yourself in one (five or ten) years from now?

free2succeed Job Center

Suggested Ways of Answering

Now learn why these questions are asked, and what the employer is looking for in your answers.

Q. Tell me about yourself.
A. This is the classic, open-ended interview question and likely to be among the first. This is your chance to sell yourself. Introduce your qualifications, good work habits, education, etc. Keep it work and career related. Don't talk about family or outside activities unless it is directly related to the job.

Q. What are your strengths?
A. Point out your positive attributes related to the job.

Q. What are your weaknesses?
A. Everybody has weakness, but don't spend too much time on this answer. Keep it work related. Try to point out a weaknesses that the interviewer might see as strengths, such as never being able to say no. This tells the interviewer that if he/she asks you to do something specific you will do your best to complete the task. For every weakness, offer a strength that compensates for it.

Q. Why do you want to work for us?
A. Research the company before you interview. Avoid the predictable, such as, "Because it's a great company." Say why you think it's a great company based on your research.

Q. Why should I hire you?
A. Point out your positive attributes related to the job, and the good job you've done in the past. Include any compliments you've received from management.

Q. How do you handle pressure and stress?
A. Describe a situation that was highly stressful for you and how you handled it. The best indicator for success is a description past success! The interviewer is already getting an idea of how you deal with stress from seeing your body language at the interview.

Q. Where do you see yourself in one (five or ten) years from now?
A. Explain your career-advancement goals that are in line with the job for which you are interviewing. Your interviewer is more interested in hearing what role their company will play in your future. It's not a good idea to tell your potential new boss that you'll be going after his or her job, but it's okay to mention that you'd like to earn a senior or management position.