

30 Common Interview Questions

While many questions will be specific to each job and company, there are certain questions that EVERYONE should be ready to answer in any interview. A great way to be prepared for these is to talk about the best ways to respond to each of them with others and test out different answers in practice interviews. Some of the questions may sound similar, but read them closely to understand exactly what the interviewer is getting at so you can respond appropriately.

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. What are your short/long-term career goals?
3. Tell me about a time you showed leadership.
4. Tell me about a time you showed teamwork.
5. Tell me about a time that you failed.
6. Tell me about a time that you dealt with a difficult person.
7. Tell me a suggestion you had to improve one of your previous companies.
8. Tell me about a time that you showed initiative.
9. What's your greatest weakness? Your greatest strength?
10. Why do you think you would do well in this position?
11. What can you bring to the table that the other candidates can't?
12. Describe your work style.
13. Do you work better by yourself or with others?
14. What type of role do you play on teams?
15. What motivates you?
16. What do you think are the most important qualifications for this job?
17. Why are you interested in our company?
18. Why are you interested in this job in particular?
19. Tell me what you know about this company/our industry/this type of job.
20. Are you willing to travel? How much? Work nights? Weekends? Relocate?
21. How soon would you be able to start?
22. (If employed) Why are you looking for a job? OR (if unemployed) What have you been doing with your time?
23. What have you done to advance your career during the last year?
24. Why did you leave each of your previous jobs?
25. Why haven't you stayed at any of your jobs very long? OR (if you've been at one company a long time) Do you think you've been exposed to enough different experiences to succeed in this role?
26. What would your previous co-workers say about you? Bosses? Subordinates?
27. What are your salary expectations?
28. Tell me why I should hire you.
29. What question have I forgotten to ask you?
30. Do you have any questions for me?