



Career Services Assignment 4 – Soft Skill Interview Prep

Instructions: Find a job post online for a role and company you would like to apply for. Answer the following questions as if you were being interviewed for the job. Research the STAR method of answering behavioral interview questions and where applicable, utilize the STAR method in answering the below questions.

How did you hear about this position? (Make sure you remember where you heard about the role so it doesn't look like you are just applying randomly to every position possible.)

When I decided to learn coding, I did extensive research by watching numerous YouTube videos, and after careful consideration, I found that freecodecamp was consistently recommended as one of the best self-teaching resources available. As I delved into the site's comprehensive curriculum, I was impressed by the depth and quality of the instruction, as well as the supportive community of fellow learners. Thanks to freecodecamp, I was able to gain a solid foundation in coding that has allowed me to pursue my career goals with confidence.

What do you know about the company? (Research the company, website, products/services, and reviews. Talk about good reviews that make you want to join.)

As a student, I have been impressed by the level of dedication that this company has shown in providing top-quality resources for individuals who want to learn to code. The company's commitment to detail and flexibility in pacing has made it possible for anyone, regardless of their background or experience level, to acquire valuable coding skills. I am grateful for the opportunities and knowledge that I have gained from using the company's resources, and I am confident that others will find them to be equally useful in their own journeys towards mastering the art of coding.

Why do you want this job? (Be very specific. Talk about what appeals to you about the role but focus more on the value you'll add to the team and company rather than what the company will do for you.)

I am deeply grateful for the time and effort that others have invested in facilitating this course for free, and I would be honored to become a part of this community and contribute my own knowledge and expertise towards helping others acquire the necessary skills to succeed in the field. Having benefited from the generosity of others, I am motivated to pay it forward and make a positive impact in the lives of fellow learners. I am committed to work collaboratively with others in the community to create a supportive learning environment where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.



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Why should we hire you? (Be very specific. Talk about your skills, passion, and willingness to continuously learn to be an asset.)

I firmly believe that there is no greater satisfaction than the one that comes from giving back to others, and I am excited to have the opportunity to join this company and contribute to its mission of providing top-quality resources for learners. While I understand that jobs in this field can be lucrative, my motivation for pursuing this position goes far beyond financial gain. Rather, it is driven by a sense of gratitude for the support and guidance that I myself have received on my own journey towards mastering programming languages. I am eager to share my knowledge and experience with others, and to help them learn in a clear, simple, and engaging way. I am confident that by working collaboratively with others on the team, I can make a meaningful difference in the lives of learners and help them achieve their goals with confidence and enthusiasm.

What is your greatest professional achievement? (STAR)

Situation: I worked as a doorman in a building condominium, where my primary responsibility was to ensure the safety and security of the residents and the property.

Task: One of my greatest professional achievements was when I was tasked with implementing a new security system in the building. The previous system was outdated and unreliable, and it was essential to upgrade it to ensure the safety of the residents and their property.

Action: To accomplish this task, I first researched the latest security technology available and identified the most suitable system for the building. I then presented my findings to the building management team and obtained their approval to proceed with the installation.

I worked closely with the security company to ensure a seamless installation and training of the system. I also ensured that all residents were informed and educated on how to use the new system.

Result: The new security system was successfully installed, and it significantly improved the safety and security of the building. The residents were pleased with the new system, and there were no further security breaches or incidents reported after the installation.

Describe a difficult work situation and how you overcame it. (STAR. Never speak negatively about anyone else or any companies. Perhaps talk about change you experiences, as change is always difficult to overcome.)

Situation: As a doorman, I encountered a difficult work situation when the building I worked at experienced a power outage that lasted for several hours during the winter season.



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Task: My task was to ensure the safety and comfort of the residents during the power outage, despite the limited resources available.

Action: To overcome this difficult work situation, I quickly assessed the situation and identified the most critical tasks. My first priority was to ensure that all residents were safe and warm. I immediately contacted the building management team to inform them of the situation and request additional resources such as blankets, flashlights, and extra supplies.

I also made sure to communicate with the residents and keep them informed of the situation. I provided updates on the progress of the power restoration and helped those in need, such as elderly or disabled residents.

Result: Despite the difficult work situation, we were able to keep the residents safe and comfortable during the power outage. By staying calm, communicating effectively, and utilizing available resources efficiently, we were able to overcome the challenges we faced.

The residents appreciated our efforts and expressed their gratitude for our professionalism and dedication during the power outage. This experience taught me the importance of quick thinking, effective communication, and teamwork in overcoming difficult work situations as a doorman.

What are your goals for the future? (Make sure you answer in a time bound manner and talk about how you are looking to learn as much as possible in your field.)

My immediate goals are first, I want to gain a comprehensive understanding of programming languages, not only to complete projects but also to understand the underlying principles and techniques. To achieve this, I am committed to consistent practice and expanding my knowledge every day. Second, I aim to increase my productivity and efficiency in programming by developing strong time-management skills and utilizing best practices. Ultimately, my goal is to become a skilled and knowledgeable programmer who can contribute effectively to any team or project.

Why are you leaving your last job? (Don't say anything negative. Mention growth, changing industries, etc.)

While I am grateful for the opportunities and experiences I have gained while working at my current job, I have come to the realization that I need more opportunities for personal and professional growth. With the arrival of my children, I have been inspired to seek out new challenges and to be more productive, and I feel that pursuing new opportunities will allow me to achieve these goals. I will always cherish the valuable experiences and lessons I have learned from my current job, but I am ready for a new chapter in my career that will enable me to continue growing and developing both personally and professionally.



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What is your salary expectation?

I am very interested in this position, and I would be happy to discuss the compensation package. Based on my research and experience, I am looking for a salary in the range of \$90,000. However, I am also open to discussing other benefits such as health insurance, retirement plans, and vacation time. My primary goal is to find a position that is a good fit for my skills and experience, and where I can contribute to the success of the company.