

Second Interview Questions & Answers

Cheat Sheet



NOTE : Below you will find 5 of the most common questions that you could be asked during a second, and an example answer for each one! Use the example answers as a guideline, but you'll want to build your answers around your own situations and experiences.

One thing to remember is that because every interview is different, some of these questions could also be asked in a screening interview or your first in-person interview, so it's good to practice them at every stage of your preparation.

Question 1

What are your goals?

A *"I'd like to work for a company where I can add value to the enterprise and where there is a chance for an ambitious and diligent person to advance the company's goals as well as my own. I notice that PrepTutor is expanding to accept more Chinese students through your "Asia-Connect" program. My parents emigrated here from Hong Kong, and I speak Mandarin. I'd love to help Chinese young people assimilate through language—it's been a goal of mine for some time to serve the immigrant community. I see it not only as a way to reach out and increase our visibility within this vibrant community, but a way to expand our ability to communicate with potential customers and business contacts both here locally and eventually globally as well."*

Question 2

What are your salary expectations?

A *"If it turns out that I'm the candidate you hire for this position, I'm sure we'd be able to reach a mutually agreeable salary as I'm willing to be flexible. Can you give me an idea as to what the budgeted salary range is?"*

OR

"I would expect the salary to be in the median range for a radiologist within this area—between \$60,000 and \$70,000."

Question 3

Can you start right away?

A

"Out of respect to my current employer, I'd like to give the standard two weeks' notice. I would like to help them find and prepare my replacement, though, as I took a lot of pride in my work and I would like to pass it on responsibly. On top of that I believe one of my strengths is my ability to train and teach others complicated tasks. I think this is why my employer is pretty keen on me staying the full two weeks to facilitate the transfer. I would do that as a courtesy to any employer regardless. However, I might be able to arrange to work part-time there for the next two weeks and be available to you on a part-time basis as well."

Question 4

Give me an example of a problem you face on the job and how you resolved it...

A

"I was hired by a video production company to rewrite a script that had already been shot. They were very unhappy with the product they had ended up with and were hoping there was a way to salvage what they had already done while incorporating in the new material I was expected to write. I sat down with the producer and discovered that a large chunk of what had been shot was visually stunning, but had no audio... rendering it essentially useless from a story telling point of view. Rather than telling them to scrap all the footage, I restructured the story in such a way that the main character was able to narrate over this footage, allowing us to utilize their previous work. My simple rewrite solution to their problem ended up saving the production company the cost of doing a huge reshoot. These changes also gave them a new direction to move with the storyline which ultimately allowed them to secure funding from a large and powerful sponsor who loved what we had done. I take great pride in being able to come up with smart and economical solutions to seemingly impossible problems."

Question 5

Is there anything else I should know about you?

A

"I didn't mention an interesting anecdote when I was the safety manager at SkyScraper Construction Co. I had just completed my CPR and First Aid courses, and a man on site suddenly went into cardiac arrest. My supervisor looked at me and said, 'You're in charge of safety!' I had practiced on a dummy but never on a live person. I knew I had to keep calm and simply do what I was taught. I revived him while others called 911. He later thanked me for saving his life. Although I don't anticipate such a thing happening often, the incident taught me that, no matter what happens, keeping calm and putting one's training into motion will often resolve a threatening situation. I think that was excellent training for an air traffic controller position, in addition to my FAA certification, of course."