

## STAR Responses Worksheet

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| <b>Experiences that demonstrate my skills:</b>   |  |
| <b>Question 1:</b><br><br><b>Think back to a time where you had to explain a complex topic to someone with less knowledge or experience in the area. How did you tailor your explanation to be clear, understandable, and engaging for your audience? What specific strategies did you use to simplify technical information and ensure the listener</b> |  |
| <b>Situation</b>   | At my previous job as a teaching assistant, it was a near daily occurrence where I would have to figure out how to explain various coding problems to my students.   |
| <b>Task</b>  | To approach each topic differently for each student, to tailor my explanations in a way that would be suited best for each individual student in my classroom.   |
| <b>Action</b>  | When working 1 on 1 with a student, I would use explanations that fit in with their personal interests. For example, if I was working with a student that was an avid video game player, I would use examples from video games. Or if the student liked sports I would use a sports example to help get my point across. |
| <b>Result</b>  | I received fantastic feedback from almost all of my students. I was told on many occasions that I helped them more than the primary instructor. By tailoring my responses to the students' interests, it helped keep their attention longer and their motivation to learn increased.                                     |
| <b>Question 2:</b><br><b>Describe a situation where you had to explain a complex topic to a group with different levels of understanding. How did you tailor your communication and ensure everyone felt informed and involved?</b>  |  |

| <b>Situation</b> | In my classrooms at my previous jobs, we would have students of all skill levels ranging from not knowing how to create a folder on their computer, to already being fluent with API's and algorithms.  |
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| <b>Task</b>      | My task was to teach in a way that would benefit everybody, regardless of skill level.  |
| <b>Action</b>    | I would start off fairly slow in order to explain the basics for those who were not as informed. After a bit of time, I'd get into slightly more advanced topics that the less-knowledgeable students would almost definitely have questions about. While discussing the more advanced topics, I would answer any and all questions. After the meeting was over, I would open a Zoom breakout room specifically for the people who were struggling, so I could go more in-depth on the topics they were struggling on. This helped keep the newer students more engaged, without boring the more advanced students to the point they couldn't pay attention |
| <b>Result</b>    | Every student was able to learn at a pretty good pace, because they were all learning regardless of their skill level and knowledge on the topic.   |

## **Common Behavioral Interview Questions for Cybersecurity Analysts**

1. Describe a situation where you had to explain a complex topic to a group with different levels of understanding. How did you tailor your communication and ensure everyone felt informed and involved?
2. Describe an experience in which you implemented a security solution. What was your solution, how did you help with implementation, and what were the results?
3. Describe an experience in which you used your cybersecurity skills effectively. How did you analyze variables and identify anomalies to improve security and productivity for your company?
4. Think about a situation where you learned something new and unexpected about an important safety or security issue. What caught your attention and how did you learn about it? Describe what steps you took to understand the information better and learn more about this topic.
5. Describe an experience in which you used technical security tools as part of issue resolution. How did you assess the issues and reach the conclusion that these tools represented the optimal solution? What was the outcome?
6. Describe an experience in which you had to plan, develop, execute, and/or maintain documentation related to security processes and procedures.
7. Think about a time you participated in a group project or activity that involved collaboration with different people with diverse interests and schedules. Describe how you worked effectively with the group to plan tasks, communicate clearly, and achieve a common goal. Share specific examples of how you ensured everyone felt included and contributed towards the project's success.
8. Describe an experience in which a security leak or other issue called for immediate response, analysis, and action. How would you organize and execute this while prioritizing and dealing with other duties disrupted by this event?
9. Think back to a time where you had to explain a complex topic to someone with less knowledge or experience in the area. How did you tailor your explanation to be clear, understandable, and engaging for your audience? What specific

strategies did you use to simplify technical information and ensure the listener grasped the key points and importance of your message?

10. Think about a situation where you encountered differing opinions or resistance to an idea you believed in, potentially a project, group activity, or even a personal debate. Describe how you approached this situation. How did you gather information, communicate your perspective effectively, and navigate differing viewpoints? How could you apply this to reluctance from higher management in regard to a security or regulatory issue?