Interview tip: End responses with positive takeaways

You've been growing your interview skills so much throughout this program. And in your recent interview practice, you discovered the importance of ending your responses with a positive takeaway. In this reading, you'll review the best practices you learned from the interview so that you can apply it to future interviews. You'll also have the opportunity to practice this new interview tip with the example questions at the end of the reading. Afterwards, you can use Interview Warmup to practice this new tip even more!

End responses with positive takeaways

Often during interviews you'll discuss challenges you encountered or obstacles you overcame. To help ensure that your interviewers understand the positive outcomes of your work and the ways you succeeded, you'll want to end your responses with positive takeaways. When you end your answers with positive takeaways that summarize your earlier answers, you leave your interviewers thinking about the most important parts: your ability to learn, adapt, and overcome challenging situations and solve problems.

Consider what the most important benefits of your work were, how they helped your team members or stakeholders, or how your work moved the project forward. When you finish explaining your thought process or providing an example, make sure to end your answer with an important success. Did your work on a project improve customer satisfaction, increase your team's efficiency, or remove an obstacle for someone else? Did you learn something useful from that experience? Then share it! This will leave your interviewers with a favorable note to recall when they revisit your answers later.

Build interview skills

At this point in your learning journey, you've discovered a lot of great tips for succeeding at interviews. You know how to demonstrate your problem solving skills by discussing your thought process, showcase your skills by providing examples, and explain your impact. Now, you have another tip to add to your interview skills: end your responses with positive takeaways. As you start applying for jobs and preparing for interviews, keep these tips in mind and practice them to help you feel more confident and ready for the interview process.

Practice interview skills

You'lll want to practice answering questions you might encounter in an actual interview. Consider how you might apply ending your responses with positive takeaways. Here is a list of questions you might apply this tip to during an interview:

- What interests you in cloud cybersecurity? What are you looking for in your next role?
- Describe how you would address different stakeholders' needs in developing a business continuity plan. How would you deal with conflicting priorities?
- Describe a time when you encountered an issue when working on a project as part of a team. What steps did you take to solve the problem? How did you communicate and divide work with your teammates?

As a reminder, being enrolled in this certificate program also gives you access to Interview Warmup, a tool that helps you practice answering questions to become more confident and comfortable throughout the interview process. Interview Warmup asks you interview questions to which you respond verbally. This tool transcribes your answers in real time, allowing you to review how you responded. In addition, Interview Warmup's machine learning algorithm can detect insights that can help you learn more about your answers and improve the way you communicate.

Here are some of the insights that Interview Warmup provides:

- **Talking points:** This tool lets you know which topics you covered in your answer, such as your experience, skills, and goals. You'll also be able to explore other topics that you might want to consider covering.
- **Most-used words:** This tool highlights the words you used most often and suggests synonyms to broaden your word choices.
- **Job-related terms:** This tool highlights the words you used that are related to the role or industry in which you're preparing to work. You'll also be able to explore an entire list of job-related terms that you might want to consider including in your answer.

To access Interview Warmup, follow these steps:

1. Go to https://www.cloudskillsboost.google/interview-warmup.
2. Click **Start practicing**.
3. Select **Cybersecurity** to open an additional menu.
4. Select **Cloud Cybersecurity** as the field you wish to practice.
5. Click **Start**.

The interview lasts about 10 minutes, and the questions will vary with each attempt. During each interview session, you'll be asked two background questions, one behavioral question,

and two technical questions. You're encouraged to try as many practice interviews as you want. This can be a great way to practice the interview tips you learned about in this course!