**Phrases for Star Answer**

**1. Situation**   
*I was working in a team of…*   
*We were running into technical issues with…*   
*Way back in 2008…*   
*Early in my career I worked on…*   
*At the beginning of last year…*  
*Early in my career I worked on a project…*   
*On my previous project…*   
*When I was involved in…*

**2. Task**   
*We had to…*   
*I was challenged to...*  
*I was required to…*   
*I was asked to…*   
*My team/I was expected to…*   
*My role was to …*   
*It was my responsibility to …*   
*Our customer wanted us to …*   
*We needed to make sure that …*

**3. Action**  
*Specially, I coordinated [the development of]*   
*Next, I identified…*   
*spent [three months] evaluating the issue…*   
*improved the process …*   
*consolidated several steps…*   
*designed graphics for…*   
*delegated …*   
*organized…*   
*assigned…*   
*coordinated…*   
*supervised…*   
*encouraged…*   
*prioritized…*   
*investigated…*   
*examined…*   
*surveyed…*   
*looked into…*   
*maintained…*   
*repaired…*   
*built…*   
*coded…*   
*installed…*   
*implemented…*

**4. Result**   
*I’ve been promoted to ...*   
*I grew a lot working on …*   
*It taught me …*   
*What I learnt is …*   
*Through this experience I …*   
*And so as a result …*   
*This really showed me how to…*   
*As I look back on this experience, I realize …*   
*… improved functionality by [100%]*   
*…facilitated data handling [three times]*

**Linking words**

**Sequencing**   
*First*   
*Initially*  
*Then*   
*Next*  
*After that*   
*In the end*   
*We ended up [doing]*

**Adding**  
*What is more*   
*Also*   
*And*   
*Besides*   
*On top of that*

**Giving an example**   
*For example*   
*For instance*   
*Namely*   
*Such as*   
*To illustrate*

**Comparing**  
*Similarly*   
*Compared with*   
*In comparison*   
*On the one hand…on the other hand*   
*One downside is… but on the plus side [it’s]*

**Emphasizing**  
*So what I decided to do was*  
*So what I did was*   
*In particular*   
*Especially*   
*Mainly*   
*Specifically*

**Silence fillers**  
*Well*  
*So*   
*Right*   
*That’s a good question*   
*Let’s see*   
*Let me think*  
*You know*

**Clarifying**  
*What I am trying to say is*  
*What I mean is*   
*In other words*   
*Let me put it another way*

**Checking understanding**   
*Does it make sense?*   
*Does this answer your question?*   
*Did I make myself clear?*   
*I hope this explains the situation for you.*