**How to Impress Recruiters in Your Initial Interview**

* **First impressions matter**: Recruiters like Sydney from Google value energy, preparedness, and clear communication.
* **Tell your story effectively**: When asked “Tell me about yourself,” keep it under three minutes. Focus on your journey, your relevant experience, and why the role and company are a great fit.
* **Use the job description**: Pull two to three key responsibilities or qualifications from the role and align them with your background to shape a compelling pitch.
* **Craft a career identity statement**: Highlight your professional background and core skills to clearly convey who you are and what you bring to the table.
* **Do your homework**: Show that you’ve researched the company, team, and position. Unpreparedness signals disinterest or lack of effort.
* **Keep it concise**: Recruiters often have limited time—so be succinct, direct, and organized in your responses.