

Career Services Assignment 4 – Soft Skill Interview Prep

Points possible: 50

Category	Criteria	% of Grade
Completeness	All requirements of the assignment are complete.	50
Quality	Answers show thought, proper grammar, and would be acceptable in most interview situations.	50

Instructions: Find a job post online for a role and company you would like to apply for. Answer the following questions as if you were being interviewed for the job. Research the STAR method of answering behavioral interview questions and where applicable, utilize the STAR method in answering the below questions.

How did you hear about this position? (Make sure you remember where you heard about the role so it doesn't look like you are just applying randomly to every position possible.)

Since this is a complete career change for me, I utilized a Google search for open front-end coding positions to start my search for potential positions in this new field. I refined my search to find remote working options and found your posting for a Front End Web Developer Contractor.

What do you know about the company? (Research the company, website, products/services, and reviews. Talk about good reviews that make you want to join.)

I viewed your website to get more familiar with the company and the work that you do.

Why do you want this job? (Be very specific. Talk about what appeals to you about the role but focus more on the value you'll add to the team and company rather than what the company will do for you.)

I'm excited to apply my skills as a front end developer to the work that you do. I ideally would like to work on a contract basis and build my own development company. I see a great potential to work on short term projects such as this to allow for a variety of coding experiences.

Why should we hire you? (Be very specific. Talk about your skills, passion, and willingness to continuously learn to be an asset.)

I would bring a fresh perspective to your project. I have a desire to contribute to the larger strategic vision, an inquisitive mindset, willing to work outside of my comfort zone, decisive, and thorough.

I thrive in a fast-paced environment and ability to multitask to meet deadlines as needed.

What is your greatest professional achievement? (STAR)

I am new to this career path but have had many years owning other businesses, including and accounting office, a licensing office, a real estate brokerage and a restaurant. I built up the client base in both the accounting office and licensing office and then sold them. I started the real estate brokerage to facilitate a real estate career for my son, who took over the business upon getting his own brokerage license. I currently own and operate the restaurant and have successfully positioned management to assist me to run this business day to day. Now that I have freed up my time at the restaurant, I am branching out to a new role as an independent front-end developer, which has always been a strong interest of mine.

Describe a difficult work situation and how you overcame it. (STAR. Never speak negatively about anyone else or any companies. Perhaps talk about change you experiences, as change is always difficult to overcome.)

I have always been able to overcome difficult work situation through communication and mutual respect. Always try to get the opposing party to talk through the issue to come to a mutual agreement. Sometimes people can just be unreasonable, and the only answer is to part ways. Most times, however, effective communication and compromise will resolve the issue. Many difficulties are stemmed from lack of communication.

What are your goals for the future? (Make sure you answer in a time bound manner and talk about how you are looking to learn as much as possible in your field.)

I have always had a desire to learn programming. Other life responsibilities have delayed my ability to learn this until now. After what seems like a lifetime of accounting work, I'm ready for a change in focus and front-end programming is a great solution. Ever-changing technology gives me the ability to continue learning and growing my skills.

Why are you leaving your last job? (Don't say anything negative. Mention growth, changing industries, etc.)

After a lifetime of accounting, I've reached my burnout and wanted a fresh start with a brand-new focus. I have always had a desire to learn programming and ever-changing technology gives me the ability to continue learning and growing my skills.

What is your salary expectation?

I'm not entirely sure what to expect for salary. I currently bill out my time for accounting at \$100 per hour and would expect to be able to be within \$50-100 per hour with programming.