

To begin an interview, hiring managers often ask simple questions to learn more about you and your professional history. Here are some common general questions employers may ask you during an interview in English:

General English interview questions

1. Can you *tell me about yourself*?
2. Do you have any questions about the position?
3. What's your ideal *work environment*?
4. How do you organize important tasks?
5. Can you tell me about a time you overcame a challenge?
6. Who do you admire and why?
7. What's something that motivates you?
8. What did you like the most about your previous job?
9. What are your weaknesses?
10. What do you do for fun?
11. Are you willing to work overtime?

Questions about experience and background

After learning general information about you, potential employers typically ask questions to determine your education and work experience. Hiring personnel may ask you questions like these to learn more about your experience and background:

1. Can you describe your relevant work experience?
2. What training do you have that qualifies you for this position?
3. What part of your education do you value the most?
4. Do you have any management experience?
5. Describe your main responsibilities in your previous job.
6. What hours did you work in your previous role?
7. Do you have experience using software programs?
8. What was the most valuable thing you learned from your previous job?
9. Have you ever served in a leadership role?

10.	<i>What skills have you learned that prepared you for this role?</i>
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Once a potential employer learns more about your qualifications, they may finish an interview by asking more specific questions about the position or your skills. Employers may ask more complex questions such as these in English:

In-depth questions for an interview in English

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| 1. | <i>What are your salary expectations?</i> |
| 2. | <i>What are your career goals for the next five years?</i> |
| 3. | <i>Describe your greatest accomplishment at your previous job.</i> |
| 4. | <i>In what areas do you want to grow or learn more?</i> |
| 5. | <i>Are you willing to travel for this position?</i> |
| 6. | <i>Are you willing to relocate for this position?</i> |
| 7. | <i>What might make you successful in this job?</i> |
| 8. | <i>Do you feel collaboration is important in the workplace?</i> |
| 9. | <i>How have you turned a weakness into a strength?</i> |
| 10. | <i>What do you feel you can offer our company if you get hired for this position?</i> |

Sample questions and answers for an interview in English

Use the following questions and answers to prepare for your interview in the English language:

1. What are your strengths?

Employers ask this question to help the interviewer understand your abilities and qualifications specific to the position. To properly answer this question, research the position and determine the necessary qualities to perform well in the role. Then, tailor your answer to focus on strengths related to the job and show you're capable of adding value to the position and the company as a whole. **Example:** "Excellent

customer service, attention to detail and persistence are my strengths. When I started working in hospitality, I learned that attentiveness to a customer's needs makes them feel valued and helps you learn how to serve them better. It also helps create a positive customer experience. Another strength of mine is how I'm persistent about making sure to complete a task. It's important to me that I complete tasks to the standards set by the organization and my personal standard of excellent work. These three attributes work together to make me a strong customer advocate." **Related:**

2. Tell us about your educational experience

Interviewers ask this question to determine if you have the specific experience and education needed to perform the job duties for which you're applying. For example, if you're applying for a copywriting position, the hiring manager likely wants to hear that you have a bachelor's degree in English, writing, journalism or a related field. While you don't need to divulge every bit of education and experience you've ever received, be sure to include all relevant information that supports your ability to excel in the position. The following are examples of education and experience to include in your answer to this question:

- Your degrees
- Any diplomas you've received, such as those from a polytechnic college
- Any certifications you've obtained that support your ability to succeed in the position

Example: "I earned my software development degree at Mountain National University in Brazil. During my final semester, I completed an internship with Jensen Software as a development specialist. After graduating, Jensen Software offered me a full-time position where I worked for three years. I also completed my cloud computing certification while working in that position, which I feel prepares me to take on a role within this organization." **Related:**

3. Why are you interested in this position?

Many interviewers ask applicants why they're interested in the position or the company. When answering this question, it's important to focus on how your abilities and experience can benefit the company and position. You can also discuss that you want to grow with the company, as many employers want to hire employees who plan to stay with the business for at least five years. **Example:** "I'm interested in this position because I want to be part of an organization that values its employees and what they contribute to the workplace. I'm interested in your collaborative idea platform and emphasis on personal growth through professional development. I want

to earn additional industry certifications and believe this position can help me achieve my goals while contributing to the company's mission." **Related:**

4. Why should we hire you?

Employers often ask this question to determine whether a candidate fully understands the requirements of the position and gauge their ability to meet those requirements. A great way to prepare for this question is to study the job listing and the requirements for the position based on the employer's job posting language. List which of your abilities correspond with these requirements and use these in your answer. **Example:** "I feel you should hire me because I have the experience to take on this role and the dedication and passion to lead a team of professionals. My skills in collaborative problem-solving and project management make me a strong leader. If you choose me for this position, I'm ready to use my expertise to encourage my team to create a better product that reflects the quality this company consistently delivers to consumers." **Related:**

Tips to prepare for an interview in English

Knowing different languages, such as English, can give you an advantage over candidates who don't speak multiple languages. Taking time to practice your English before a job interview ensures you feel confident and prepared when answering interview questions. Here are some tips to help you prepare for an interview in English:

- **Research the company.** Take the time to research the company before the interview, and practice talking about them in English. You can also make a list of questions to ask the interviewer about the company and the open position.
- **Practice answering questions with a friend or colleague.** Another great way to prepare for an interview in English is to practice answering interview questions. Ask a friend,

•	family member or colleague to interview you using some of the	
	most common questions. Answer each question in English, and	
	continue practicing until you feel confident with each answer you	
	provide.	
	Consider your clarity and speed. When speaking in English, it's	
	important to pay attention to how clearly you speak. This ensures	
	that the interviewer understands what you're saying and that	
•	there's no misunderstanding or confusion when participating in	
	a conversation during the interview.	
	Take an English course. Another option to help you prepare for	
	interviews in English is to take an English course online or in	
	person. These courses teach you the fundamentals of the English	
•	language and allow you to learn the proper pronunciation and	
	usage of common words and phrases.	