

Common Questions

26 questions

Categories

1 Tell me about yourself.

2 What is your greatest strength?

3 What is your greatest weakness?

4 Why should we hire you?

5 Why do you want to work here?

6 Tell me about a time you showed leadership.

7 Tell me about a time you were successful on a team.

8 What would your co-workers say about you?

9 Why do you want to leave your current role?

10 Describe your most challenging project.

11 Tell me about something you've accomplished that you are proud of.

12 Can you explain your employment gap?

13 What are your salary expectations?

14 What do you like to do outside of work?

15 Tell me about a time you had to manage conflicting priorities.

16 Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

17 Describe your leadership style.

18 Tell me about a time you failed or made a mistake.

19 Tell me about a time you worked with a difficult person.

20 Tell me about a time you had to persuade someone.

21 Tell me about a time you disagreed with someone.

22 Tell me about a time you created a goal and achieved it.

23 Tell me about a time you surpassed people's expectations.

24 Tell me about a time you had to handle pressure.

25 Tell me about a time you had to learn something quickly.

26 Do you have any questions for me?

Describe your most challenging project.

Practice and get feedback

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Overview

Employers want to get a sense of what 'challenging' means to you. They also want to know how you handled the situation in a calm way. They're looking for a storyline to prove that you can turn a bad story into a good story.

PREMIUM

Sample answers

Sample answer 1

248,497 views

In my current role, I was in charge of leading a major marketing campaign for a new product launching nationwide. The project was challenging both because of how large it was and because it involved constant...

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Sample answer 2

By Hardware Engineer Professional

175,229 views

I was brought into a project right before the ramp, when the existing team ran into a blocker issue. They were severely constrained in both resources and time, and didn't have the bandwidth to address it. Obviously, there...

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Sample answer 3

By Program Manager Professional

159,088 views

While working for a major airline, I needed to adjust a financial model that shared revenue between all the airlines in our partnership. The model used a common industry metric, RASM, to calculate unit revenue — based on the...

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Sample answer 4

By Data Engineering Analyst Professional

141,741 views

I was tasked with implementing a uniform data platform for a large, multinational company with tens of thousands of employees. It had to be done in such a way that it could be used by teams spread out all over the...

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Answer framework



How to approach past experience questions

By Linda Raynier CPA, CA, Career Strategist

2 mins · 128,369 views

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Respond to this kind of question with a compelling story that uses the "SAR" framework: situation, action, and results.

Describe the situation.

Talk about the initial events that occurred. What were the problems that you were experiencing? What needed to be solved and what resources did you have--or not have? This is a really key part of the story, so it should be about three to four sentences long.

Get into the action.

Speak about the key milestones that you went through. Tell them what you did to turn the situation around. Don't go into too much detail though. It should only be about two to three sentences, and try to use active verbs, things like "I implemented" or "I persuaded".

Show the results.

Let them know how well things turned out, how the problems were solved and what you may have learned along the way. Try to include a clincher at the end, like dollars saved or improved profitability. It drives home that you did a great thing.

See less

Tips

- Have a clear story with a specific challenge.
- Describe the negative impact if you hadn't resolved the issue.
- Discuss action steps you took and talk about the positive impact.

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