**WEEK 10**

**ELEVATOR PITCH**

Yea, so a bit about me. I have a background in the fashion industry where I was a studio head for a menswear brand as a sample developer and lead pattern maker. I have since transitioned to software development and have really taken to how different problem solving is here than in fashion. I worked with a lot of strong personalities which was tough at times but had taught me alot about team dynamics and group communication that has been vital the times I've worked on apps in a team setting. I was fortunate enough to receive hands on software development training at CodeWorks and have a solid understanding of HTML, CSS and Javascript as well as being knowledgeable on back ends like Node js and C#. At this point all my apps front ends are using Vue which has been a game changer and has been really exciting to use. I would say I'm a team player and willing to work with whomever and eager to share my knowledge and to continue to learn.

**5 COMMON INTERVIEW QUESTIONS AND STAR RESPONSES**

1- Talk about a time when you had to work closely with someone whose personality was very different from yours? My last job was in a creative field and often worked with difficult people. I had a coworker whose chill, almost lazy outlook often clashed with my focused self. After getting into some awkward situations with her regarding deadlines missed, I started to ask myself if not for incompetence/laziness then why were the deadlines missed and thought of times that I missed deadlines. I missed deadlines due to having too much on my plate, so I started to ask her about how we can help and saw she was overwhelmed. I had helped her redistribute some of her tasks and in doing so I was able to get her to meet her deadlines which helped me get my work done and I made an ally at work.

2- Describe a time when it was especially important to make a good impression on a client. How did you go about doing so? At my last job we had often had celebrity clients and on one such day we had an athlete in for a fitting. I was the one conducting the fitting and needed to make sure I represented the brand and kept him comfortable. I made sure I acknowledged our client and his party as well as getting any refreshments then made sure to be at my designers beckon call letting her shine as the personality and showing that her staff was competent and professional. The fitting we had that day went great and led to a long relationship that he and the brand still have.

3-Sometimes it's just not possible to get everything on your to-do list done. Tell me about a time your responsibilities got a little overwhelming. What did you do?

At my previous job we had a very strict and very stressful deadline that being Paris fashion week. My todo list was huge and time was getting close. I took a look at my list and spoke with my designer about the value some pieces had over others. We prioritized the shirts, which are our best sellers and left accessories last. In the end I was able to get all the items that were best sellers completed and even some of the accessories for styling but not for selling completed which lead to great show and successful showroom sales appointments.

4-When you’re working with a large number of customers, it's tricky to deliver excellent service to them all. How do you go about prioritizing your customers’ needs? The brand I had worked for had several different clients in different regions. We grew as a brand very quickly and couldn't keep up orders for one season. We took a look at each client's pass orders and the region's other orders and chose to give them items that others in the region didn't have to keep the offerings unique to that client. While there was frustration they did appreciate having unique items which the unique aspect is a key feature of the brand.

5-Describe a time when you saw some problem and took the initiative to correct it rather than waiting for someone else to do it? At my last job we worked with antique textiles and we ended up with a batch of shirts whose textiles were very weak with age and were tearing away too easily to sell on their own. At this time I was still an intern but I had taken some of my free time using my knowledge of garment construction lined the shirt while my boss was attempting to resource the fabric to remake the shirts. I was able to show my boss a shirt that was strong enough to wear and love while also looking elevated due to the lining. She loved the idea and we were able to salvage all the shirts we almost lost and had proved myself as compitate at garment construction and problem solving.

**HOW TO PREPARE FOR AN INTERVIEW**

Definitely research the company just enough to be able to ask questions about growth, competitors, the environment as a whole. That research will also allow me to find ways that I can personalize my elevator pitch and show an interest in the company as a whole beyond just a paycheck. Spending time running through a few test questions from the list provided with STAR responses will help warm me up to the questions asked of me during the interview.

**5 POST INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

Who will be my mentor?

How have employees described the company's culture?

How and when will my performance reviews be handled?

What employee educational opportunities are available?

What would my first 90 days look like?