

SPACE MISSION

Due to worsening environmental conditions on Earth the United Nations has decided to send a group of people to populate another planet. The space ship has to carry a lot of supplies so the space is limited to eight people. A short list of volunteers has been compiled and you are on the committee which will decide which eight people will be chosen.

Candidates

1. Manfred, 24, from Bochum. Has his own Opel Manta.
2. Chang, 36, a Tibetan Buddhist priest. Very good looking.
3. Markus, 60, a Bavarian hotelier. Likes to cook.
4. Mikhail, 30, a doctor from St. Petersburg. Homosexual.
5. Uwe, 56, a pig farmer from Kleinkuhdorf, Mecklenburg. Married five times.
6. Svetlana, 26, a blind nurse from Bratislava. Can type well.
7. Chen-Chou, 43, an accountant who works in Hong Kong.
8. Liu, 35, Chen-Chou's pregnant wife. Has a university degree in Elizabethan English.
9. Véronique, 19, a nightclub singer from Paris. Poet.
10. Tunaki, 25, Red Army terrorist from Osaka, Japan. Very shy.
11. George, 50, a policeman from Dallas, Texas. Has his own gun.
12. Jukko, 21, a ballet dancer from Lapland in Finland. Computer literate.
13. Kunta, 20, Zulu footballer from South Africa. Has some knowledge of 'black magic'.
14. Kate, 25, a talented teacher from Buckinghamshire, England. Doesn't like fish.
15. Magdalena, 43, a university economics professor from Caracas.
16. Indira, 52, an agricultural scientist from Bombay. Alcoholic.
17. LaDawn, 16, school drop-out from New York. Very street-wise.
18. Jill, 7, recently orphaned Australian from Melbourne. Can play the flute.
19. Jack, 7, Jill's twin brother. Likes to watch TV.
20. Achmed, 39, used car salesman from Lebanon.
21. An important employee of a German part of a Finnish Paper-Making company. (anon).

50 common interview questions


- 1 Why did you choose to study your degree subject?
- 2 What did you most/least enjoy about your time at university?
- 3 What skills did you develop at university?
- 4 What was the most challenging aspect of your degree course?
- 5 How will your degree help you in this position?
- 6 Tell us something about yourself.
- 7 What do you like doing in your spare time?
- 8 Why do you want this job?
- 9 Why should we hire you?
- 10 What can you bring to this position?
- 11 What do you consider to be the key skills necessary for this position?
- 12 What will you do if you don't get this job?
- 13 What are your strengths/weaknesses?
- 14 What is your biggest achievement?
- 15 What do you know about our company?
- 16 What attracted you to our company?
- 17 What do you think of our website?
- 18 Who would you consider to be our main competitors?
- 19 What trends are likely to affect our industry over the next few years?
- 20 How do you typically approach new projects?
- 21 Describe your management style.
- 22 What sorts of things do you like to delegate?
- 23 What qualities do you look for in a manager?
- 24 How do you handle stress?
- 25 Tell me about your ability to work under pressure.
- 26 In what environment do you work best?
- 27 What motivates you in terms of work?
- 28 What interests you most/least in your current work?
- 29 What would you change about your current job if you could?
- 30 Why are you considering leaving your current job?
- 31 Why did you leave your last job?
- 32 What are you looking for in a job?
- 33 What do you think will be the most challenging aspect of this role?
- 34 What kinds of decisions do you find difficult to make?
- 35 Tell us about a time when you demonstrated good customer service / leadership skills etc.
- 36 Tell us about a time when you have been innovative at work.
- 37 Tell us about a time you encountered a problem and how you resolved it.
- 38 Tell us about a time when you had to make a difficult decision.
- 39 Tell us about a time when you successfully managed a difficult situation at work.
- 40 Describe a situation in which you took a risk. What were the results?
- 41 How do you work in a team?
- 42 How would your colleagues describe you?
- 43 How would your manager describe your work?
- 44 When were you happiest at work?
- 45 You seem not to have too much experience in X. Do you think this would be a problem?
- 46 Do you think you are overqualified for this position?
- 47 How have you changed over the last five years?
- 48 Where do you see yourself in five years' time?
- 49 How do you hope to develop your career further?
- 50 Do you have any questions you would like to ask us?

The Daily Reporter

Tanker Grounded

200 tonnes of oil leak into sea



- 1  1.2 Following this news announcement, a journalist interviews a spokesperson from the company that owns the tanker. Listen to the interview.

- 1 What caused the accident?
- 2 How many accidents has the ship been involved in?
- 3 Does the spokesperson come out of it well?

- 2 Complete the questions the journalist asks.

- 1 _____ how this happened?
- 2 This isn't the first time this particular ship has been in an accident, _____?
- 3 And _____ to do to limit the damage?
- 4 _____ this kind of accident is acceptable?
- 5 It's a PR disaster for your company, _____?

Indirect questions

- 3 Look at exercise 2. Study the structure of the indirect questions in sentences 1 and 4, and the tag questions in sentences 2 and 5.

- 4 Convert the following questions into indirect questions.

- 0 How many years' experience do you have in customer service?
Can you tell me how many years' experience you have in customer service?
- 1 Where have you worked before?
I'd be interested to know _____.
- 2 Are you an ambitious person?
Would you say _____?
- 3 Have you gone as far as you can in your present job?
Do you think _____?
- 4 Who are our main customers?
Do you know _____?

5 Convert the following questions into tag questions.

0 Are you interested in a full-time job?
You're interested in a full-time job, aren't you?

1 Are you married?

2 Can't you start tomorrow?

3 Have you only worked for smaller companies?

4 Did you manage to find our offices easily?

5 Is this your first real job?

6 Would you be able to work part-time?

A job interview

6 How would you feel if you were asked these questions? How would you reply?

- 1 Can you tell me why you think you'll be good at this job?
- 2 Why should I employ you?
- 3 You don't have much experience in this field, do you?
- 4 You've taken quite a lot of time out from work. Why is that?
- 5 You are quite a quietly-spoken person. Do you have trouble asserting yourself?
- 6 Now, your last job. Did you choose to leave?
- 7 And what do you know about our company?
- 8 So tell me what you did yesterday.

SO YOU SAY YOU DON'T REALLY
HAVE ANY WEAK POINTS...



7 Work with a partner. Each choose one of the following jobs to be interviewed for. Prepare five questions each and then take it in turns to adopt the role of interviewer and interviewee. Try to put your interviewee 'on the spot'!

firefighter restaurant manager web designer
fundraiser for local sports club trainee investment advisor