PROMINEO TECH

Career Services Assignment 4 – Soft Skill Interview Prep

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.)

> **Answer:**
>
> I heard about the position on a website called Tech Jobs for Good, that lists tech jobs that have mission statements that provide a social or an objective good.

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.)

> **Answer:**
>
> I know that the company's mission is to provide GIS tools to government agencies to assess flood risk for areas throughout the country.

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.)

> **Answer:**
>
> I have my B.Sc. in Environmental Science and have a passion for connecting good climate information with those entrusted to make important decisions about the welfare of the public. This company's purpose is in alignment with that passion. Further, my experience with GIS software and modeling, and the subject matter of my educational background, provide me valuable context beyond just my technical skillset to make me an asset for the team.

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

Answer:

Beyond what I just spoke on: my passion for the company's mission, and my formal education in the area of assessment, you should hire me because I will succeed in this role. There is not one role in my professional life that I failed in, and this one will be no different. I contribute, as I have demonstrated in my employment history, far more value than I will cost you, and I will do so not only because I believe in the company's mission, but because it is important for me to succeed. I have the technical skills and the mental framework to persevere, and improve, and learn, where I don't.

What is your greatest professional achievement? (STAR)

Answer:

My greatest professional achievement was in my role as a GM for a concrete manufacturing and construction company, where I recognized a lot of slop, redundancy, and likelihood for human error in existing systems. I was able to create systems where there wasn't, improve ones that were, and increased production by 25% and profit by over 1.5 million in one year.

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.)

Answer:

Conflicts, while may be considered burdensome, are often opportunities for improvement. A time I recall where there was conflict in a difficult work situation involved an employee who I was responsible to manage. They were noticed by their peers to shirk the common tasks assigned to the team as a whole. I approached him to address the issue in the field, and found they responded poorly with others in sight. While we were able to suss out the root of the issue, involving more personal reasons

of theirs, in the future I created avenues where employees could bring things to my attention more directly and in private.

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.)

Answer:

My goals for the immediate future involve landing a role on a product team, and leveling up my technical skillset into different tech stacks so that I can develop a better comprehension for how to improve any and all software I come across.

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

Answer:

Freelance work can be very challenging, having to continually chase the next gig, so for that reason, I'm hoping to find a role in a product team in a collaborative environment.

What is your salary expectation?

Answer:

My salary expectations for this role would be in alignment for the market rate of this position and at my experience level, and my impression of this company is that that is a reasonable expectation to have.