

## **Personal Background & Motivation**

- Q: What's your full name?
- A: Sherif Ahmed Kamaleldin Hussein (Shalabi is my undocumented last name, but its preferred)
- Q: What's your story?
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- Q: Who is Sherif outside of the resume?

### **22. What got you into product management?**

How did you end up in product?

What pulled you in?

Was it accidental or intentional?

### **23. What do you do outside of work?**

Any hobbies—cooking, writing, tech tinkering?

What does your downtime look like?

How do you spend weekends?

### **24. What books or podcasts do you follow?**

How do you stay sharp?

What content shapes your thinking?

Favorite thought leaders like Shreyas Doshi, April Dunford?

## **25. Who are your role models?**

Any leaders or PMs you look up to?

Whose work do you admire?

Who inspires your approach?

## **26. What's something people misunderstand about you?**

Any common misconceptions?

What do you wish people knew?

Ever been underestimated?

## **27. What's the most rewarding thing you've worked on?**

What gave you the most meaning?

What are you proudest of?

Which project stuck with you?

## **28. What do you value most in a team?**

What qualities do you look for in teammates?

What kind of team energizes you?

What makes collaboration effective for you?

## **29. How do you handle failure or rejection?**

How do you bounce back?

Any coping strategies?

What keeps you resilient?

## **30. What's your working style or daily routine?**

How do you structure your day?

What's your approach to time management?

Are you more async or sync-driven?

## **Experience Gaps & Missing Context**

- **Q: What led to your transition from Pelcro to Meister?**
- A: I left Pelcro because I wasn't aligned with where the company was heading strategically. I've always been a strong advocate for product-led growth, but the direction at the time was shifting toward a purely sales-led motion with heavy emphasis on custom professional services. It started to feel like the business model was moving away from scalable product thinking—which is where I thrive. On the other hand, the role at Meister immediately stood out. It gave me the chance to double down on what I do best—working on complex billing systems, payments, and monetization—within a product-first environment and in a domain I've always been drawn to: productivity tools.
- **Q: Why did you decide to leave Dell Technologies?**
- A: Don't answer
- **Q: What triggered the move from CIB to VeraSafe?**

- A: Don't answer
- **Q: Were you seeking a new challenge?**
- A: Don't answer

## **Current Work**

- **Q: What's keeping you busy right now?**
- A: Don't answer
- **Q: Can you walk me through your current projects?**
- A: Don't answer
- **Q: What's top of mind for your team these days?**
- A: Don't answer

### **3. What was your biggest failure or mistake in a product role?**

Tell me about something that didn't go well.

What's a time you made a wrong call?

Any product you launched that missed the mark?

### **4. What's an example of a difficult stakeholder you had to manage?**

Ever dealt with someone pushing back hard?

What do you do when stakeholders disagree?

Tell me about a time you had to navigate misalignment.

### **5. Have you ever shut down a product or killed a feature?**

Walk me through a deprecation you led.

Ever had to say no to something already in development?

What's something you consciously removed?

## **6. Have you dealt with layoffs or downsizing?**

Have you ever had to make tough calls on headcount?

Were you impacted by org changes?

Did you have to re-org a team?

## **Strategy & Thinking**

### **7. How do you approach roadmap planning or prioritization?**

What's your process for deciding what to build?

How do you balance short-term vs long-term?

What frameworks do you use—RICE, MoSCoW, Value vs Effort?

### **8. How do you define success for a product?**

What's your north star for evaluating performance?

How do you measure product-market fit?

What metrics matter most to you?

## **9. Tell me about a time you disagreed with engineering.**

How do you handle tech pushback?

Have you ever had to escalate something?

How do you balance technical constraints with user needs?

## **10. Have you ever launched something that didn't work?**

What's something you thought would succeed but didn't?

Tell me about a product you had to walk back.

Any lessons learned from failed launches?

## **11. What's your approach to user research?**

Do you conduct interviews or testing?

How do you gather user feedback?

What qualitative signals do you rely on?

## **12. How do you work with design?**

What's your ideal PM–design collaboration?

How involved are you in the UX process?

Do you drive or support design decisions?

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## **Personality & Team Fit**

### **13. What's your leadership style?**

How would your team describe your approach?

Are you more hands-on or hands-off?

How do you build trust?

### **14. What kind of team culture do you thrive in?**

What environments bring out your best?

How do you handle team dynamics?

What cultures frustrate you?

### **15. What motivates you in a role?**

Why do you do what you do?

What excites you about product?

What gets you out of bed?

## **16. How do you handle burnout or stress?**

What do you do when you're overwhelmed?

How do you recharge?

How do you balance execution and energy?

## **17. What would your colleagues say about you?**

How do you think others perceive you?

What feedback have you gotten?

What's your reputation at work?

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## **Preferences & Career Goals**

### **18. Are you open to relocation or strictly remote?**

Would you move for the right role?



Are you location-flexible?

What's your ideal work setup—hybrid in Cairo, full-remote in Europe, etc.?

## **19. What kind of product problems excite you most?**

Do you prefer 0→1 or scaling mature products?

Are you more technical or user-facing?

What domains do you enjoy—fintech, B2B SaaS, workflow automation?

## **20. Where do you want to be in 3–5 years?**

What's your career vision?

Where are you headed next?

Are you aiming for Director of Product, VP-level leadership, or deep IC mastery?

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## **Life Context Questions**

### **31. Are you married? Have kids?**

Any family responsibilities?

How do you balance personal and professional life?

### **32. Would you be open to traveling for work?**

Are you willing to travel?

Have you done business travel before?

How do you feel about frequent travel?

### **33. Are you currently interviewing elsewhere?**

How far along are you with other companies?

Do you have any offers on the table?

Are you exploring multiple roles?

### **34. What are you looking for in your next role?**

What kind of opportunity would excite you?

What's missing in your current role?

What are you optimizing for now?

### **35. How do you stay productive or avoid burnout?**

What keeps you performing consistently?

Any habits or routines that help?

How do you maintain focus?