

launch  code

Liftoff Class 5

Interview Prep



Today's Agenda

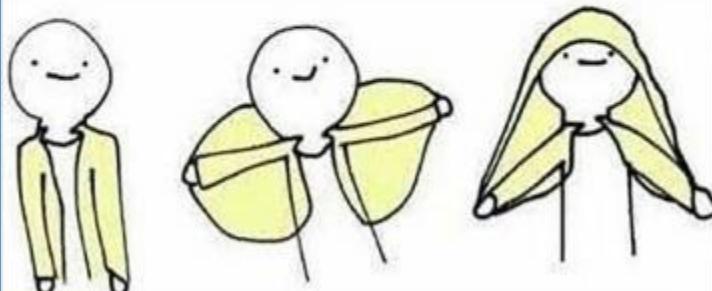
1. Interview Types
2. Researching the Company
3. General Interview Prep
4. Attire
5. Tell Me About Yourself



Common Types of Interviews

Interviewer :
What are your skills?

Me :



Behavioral Interviews

- Scenarios and hypotheticals
- Demonstrations of experience
- Opportunity to showcase transferable skills
- Allows the interviewer to get to know you better and see how you might fit in with their team

Technical Interviews

- Assess required skills or competencies (found in job description)
- Opportunity to show you have the knowledge required

Types of Technical Interviews

- Live Coding
- Project Demo
- Take Home Assessment
- **Technical Questions**

Researching the Company



Job Description

- What will you do
- What do you need to know
 - Often includes technical and professional skills
 - If you think you can rise to meet the qualifications, apply!
- About the company
- Potential interview questions
- Starting point for research

About the job

Description

You could find the next step in your Web Developer career in this position! Robert Half is searching for a candidate who can transform projects from beginning to end as a passionate Web Developer. You should apply to this job, if you have considerable knowledge of enterprise systems, solid coding skills and a sense of creativity. The permanent Web Developer will work in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Major Responsibilities

- Work through complex business practices to establish simple solutions using best of breed tools.
- Identify business needs and adapt solutions that align with the company goals.
- Work with leadership and others to find the right solutions.
- Drive and code solutions creatively.
- Collaborate with key partners to ensure on-time delivery of tested and reusable code in a rapidly changing environment.

Requirements

- Deep understanding of compatibility and cross-browser issues.
- Background in supporting the technical needs of sites of high-volume websites, apps, and integrations.
- Knowledge of HTML and CSS.
- Demonstrated talent for creating end-to-end solutions that create positive user experiences and happy customer.
- Able to progress through development of projects quickly, turning mockups into various web languages.
- Deep understanding of how a mobile user experience differs from the experience on a web or other application.
- Recent experience with server-side languages.
- JavaScript experience.
- Experience with both front-end and back-end technologies in a B2B or B2C web production environment.

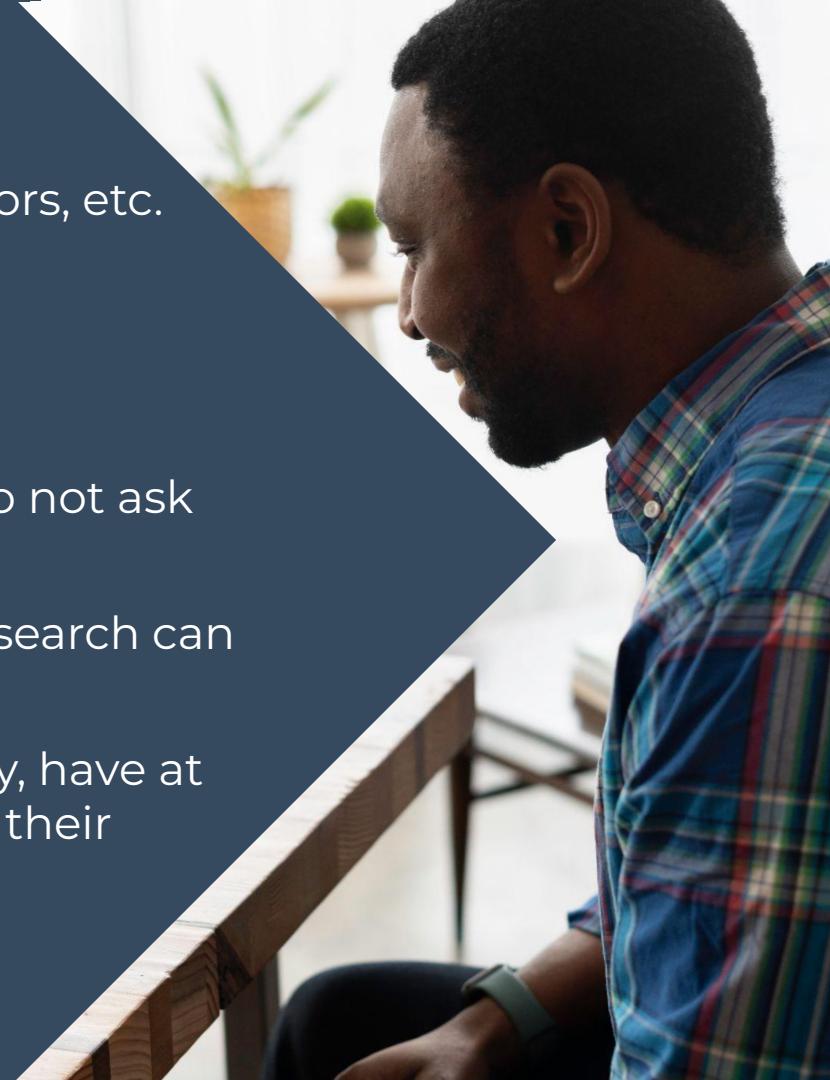
Technology Doesn't Change the World, People Do.®

Robert Half is the world's first and largest specialized talent solutions firm that connects highly qualified job seekers to opportunities at great companies. We offer contract, temporary and permanent placement solutions for finance and accounting, technology, marketing and creative, legal, and administrative and customer support roles.

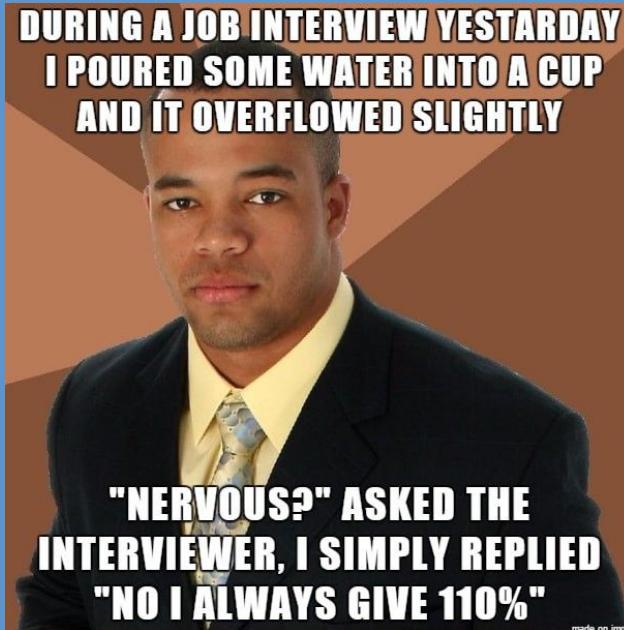


Research the Company

- Know the industry, the company, competitors, etc.
 - CrunchBase
 - Google
 - Glassdoor
 - Ask connections
- Look up the interviewer on LinkedIn, but do not ask to connect
- Demonstrating that you have done your research can position yourself for a second interview
- If asked what you know about the company, have at least three important facts ready including their primary offering



General Interview Prep



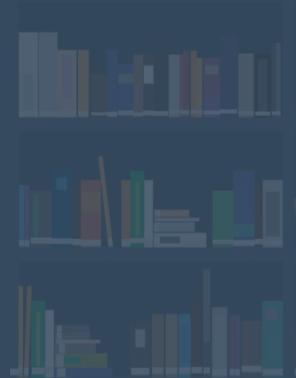
Preparation is Key

- Research the industry, company, department, and interviewer (if possible)
- Write down your well-researched questions
- Practice answering interview questions
- Rehearse how you introduce yourself
- If you have questions ahead of your interview, reach out to your point of contact to receive clarification



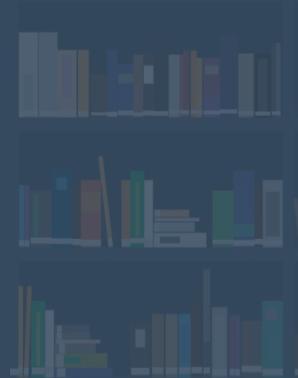
Virtual Preparation Part 1

- Get familiar with the video conferencing platform
 - Practice muting, unmuting, and screen sharing
 - Check your microphone level and audio
 - Check availability for chat feature
 - Enable captions
 - Ensure your display name is professional
 - Turn camera on to see what they will see
 - If possible, turn off self view once the interview starts



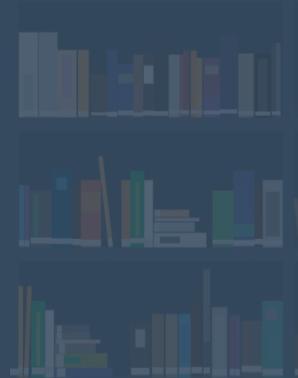
Virtual Preparation Part 2

- Check the link and locate back up number if one is provided
- Inform anyone in your space to avoid noise and interruptions
- Put your phone and computer on do not disturb
- Check your surroundings at the location you will call in from
 - Limit distractions (visual and audio) where possible
 - Make sure that there is nothing inappropriate in the background of your video
 - If at all possible, do not call in from a vehicle



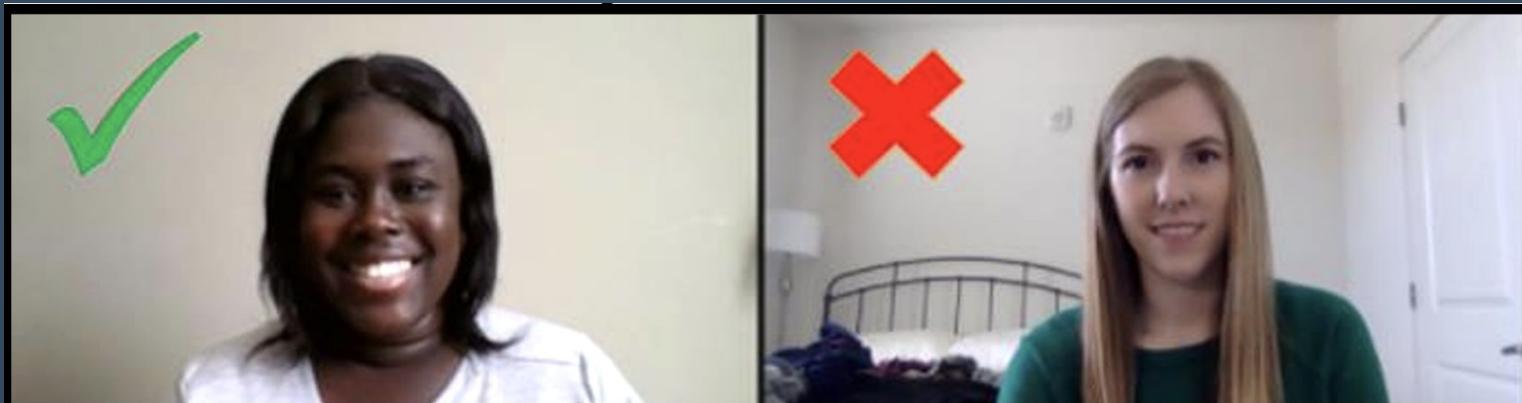
Virtual Preparation Part 3

- Utilize the background blur if you are taking the interview from your bedroom
 - Use the mild blur option
 - Have activated prior to taking the call
- We do not recommend using the fake backgrounds unless necessary
 - They often do not work as intended
 - Can be distracting in an interview
- Do not use an avatar



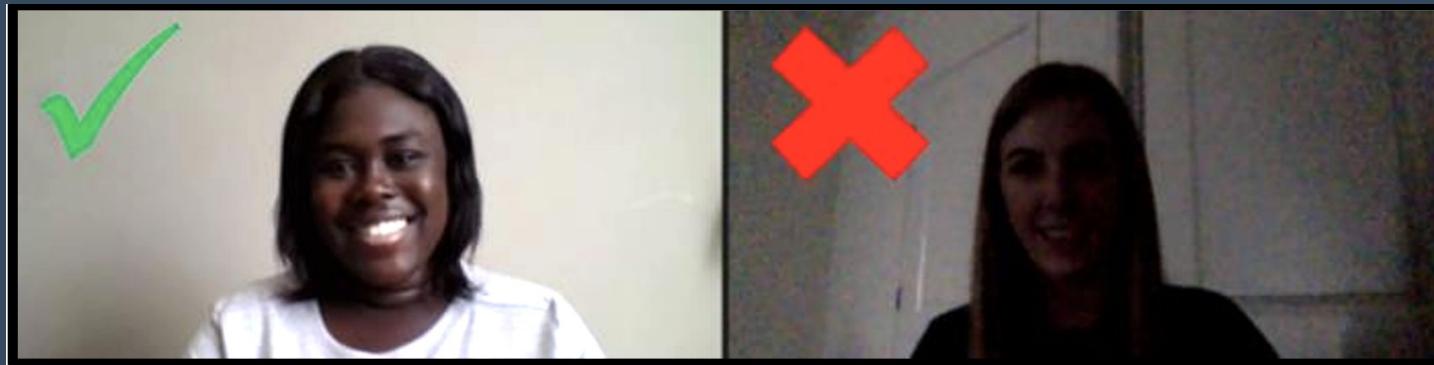
Video Interviews: Background

- Clean, tidy, and professional background
- Check what may be visible on walls, tables, etc.
- Avoid taking interviews in your vehicle or outdoors
- No virtual background - mild blur is okay



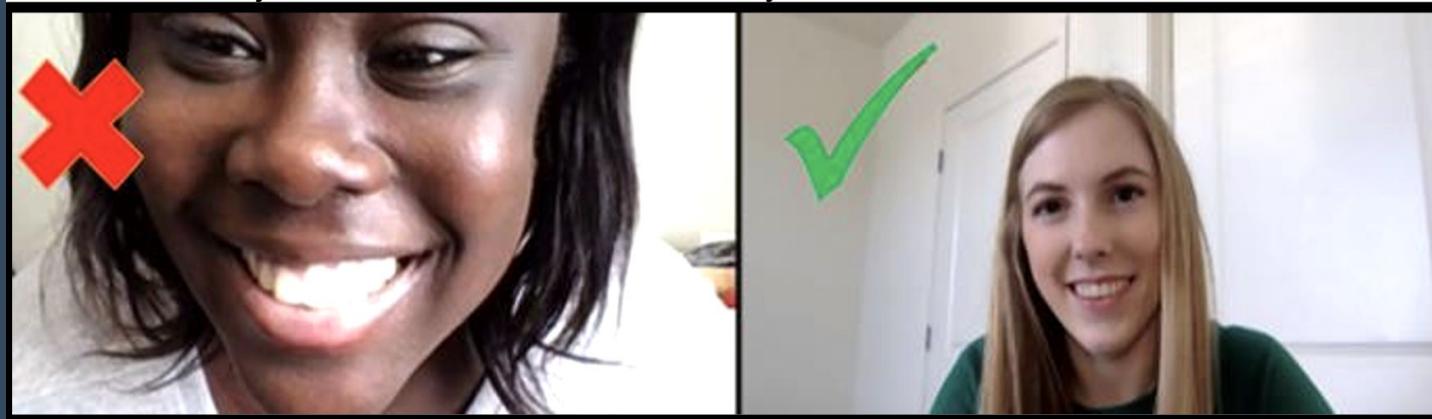
Video Interviews: Lighting

- Aim for natural light in front of you
- Do not sit with your back to a window or light source
- Check lighting in a call prior to your interview



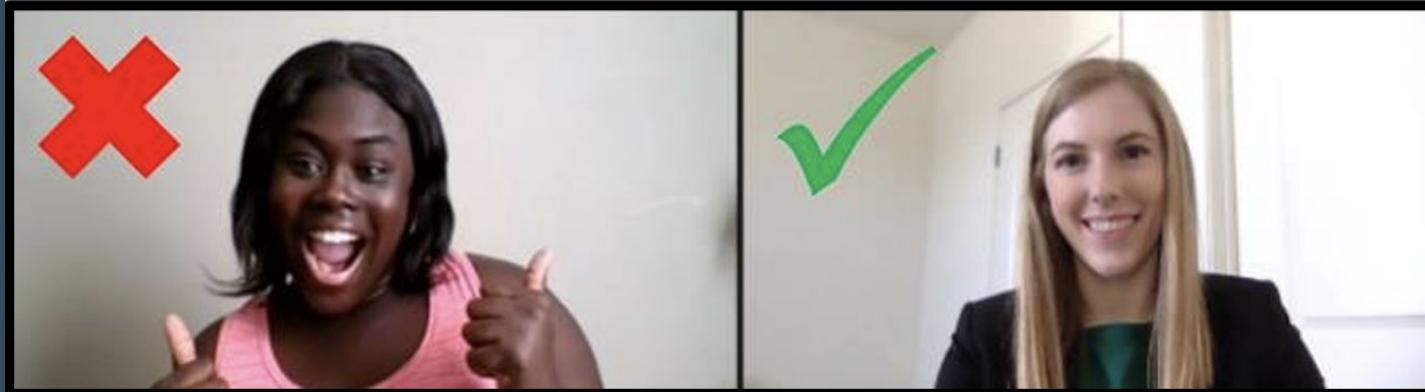
Video Interviews: Camera Placement

- Elevate your camera to eye level
- Sit an appropriate distance from the camera so you are visible from the chest to the top of your head



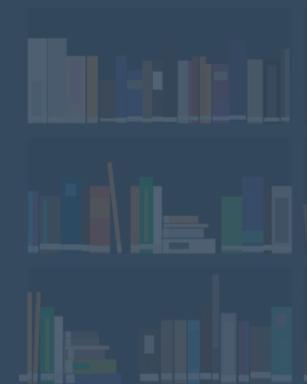
Video Interviews: Dress Appropriately

- Dress as you would for an in-person interview
- Consider pieces that may make sound if you move around



In Person Preparation

- Know where you are going in advance
- Plan out your schedule the day of the interview with a goal of arriving 15-20 minutes early
- Print extra copies of your resume
- Carry a professional-looking folder or portfolio with paper, pen, and resumes
- Pack a small bottle of water



Interview Attire



Interview Attire



- Dress at least one step up from what people in the company usually wear
- All clothes should be clean and properly fitting
- Avoid wrinkles, holes, tears, or stains
- Wear clean, closed-toe shoes in excellent condition

What Not To Wear

- Heavy perfume or cologne
- Outfit pieces that do not match the brand or culture of the company
 - No flip-flops or athletic shoes
 - No sweatpants or athleisure
- Distracting colors or prints



Good Choice

Smart Casual

Neutral button down shirt.
(No jacket or tie needed).



Casual leather or suede shoes are great!
(Anything you'd wear to the gym is a no go).

Neutral coloured chinos are perfect!
(While jeans look good, some companies frown upon them for interviews - better safe than sorry).

Neutral coloured pants, chinos or cordorouys are great! No need to get too fancy. Stay away from blue jeans.

Neutral blouse or top. (Mild patterns are good too!)



Casual heels or Ballet flats if you want to save your feet.

Business Casual



Wear a neutral button down (tucked in) and dress it up with a sweater or sport coat.

You don't need a tie for business casual outfits, open collar is totally fine.

Neutral coloured chinos or slacks are perfect. Again, avoid jeans as some companies frown upon them.

You'll want to up your game with leather dress shoes here.

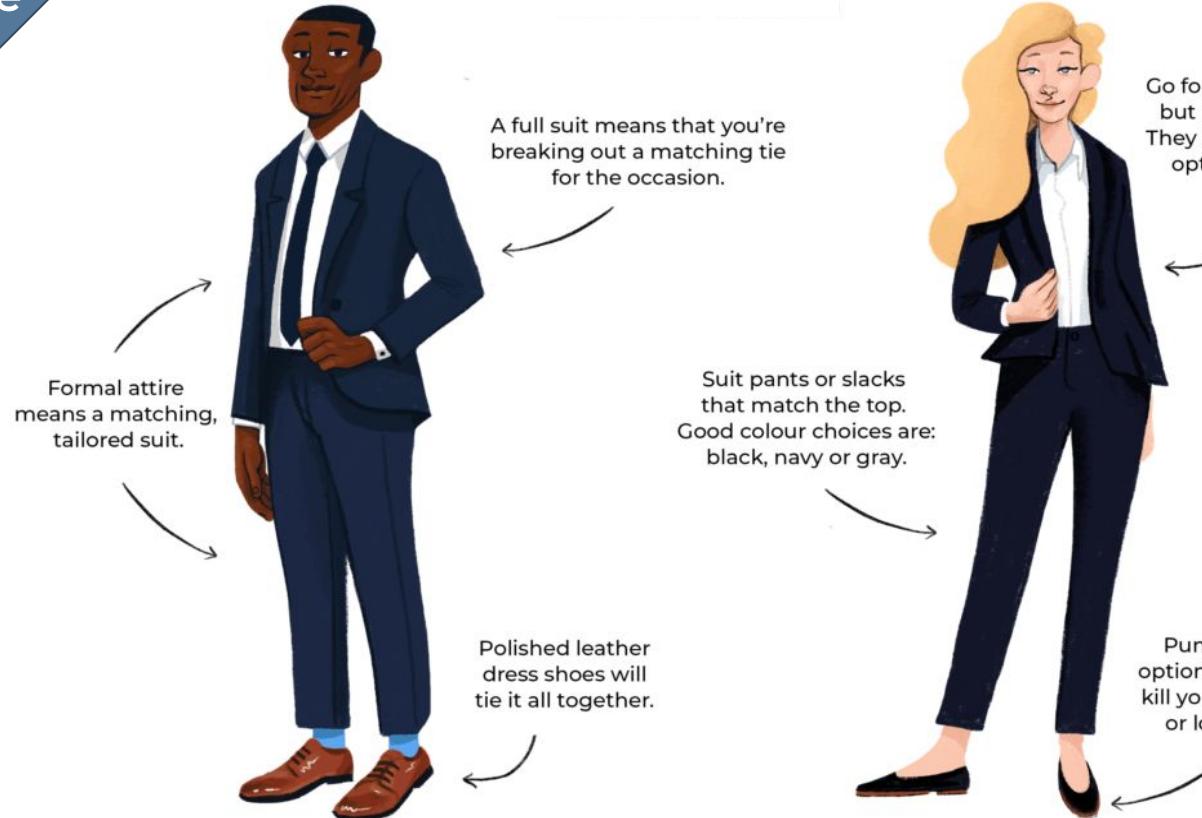


A tailored, neutral coloured blouse. Add a blazer or sweater to spice things up!

Tailored dress pants are the move here. Go for a neutral colour and avoid denim.

Comfortable pumps or fancy flats are perfect.

Business Formal



Virtual Interview Attire



Smart Casual



Smart/Business Casual



Business Casual

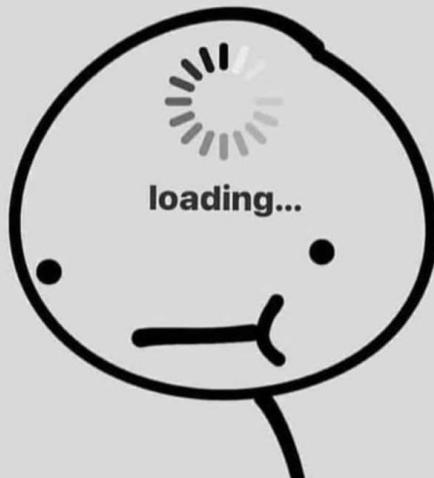


Business Formal



Tell Me About Yourself

**"tell me about yourself!"
me trying to remember
who i am and what i like**



This question can look like:

- Tell me about yourself.
- I have your resume in front of me, but tell me who you are.
- I'd love to learn more about your background.
- Describe yourself.
- (Elevator pitch at a networking event)



What They Want to Hear

- Confidence
- Enthusiasm
- Passion, Drive, Aptitude
- Why you

What to Avoid

- Walkthrough of your resume
- Long-winded narrative
- Overly succinct expression of interest
- Too much personal detail



Template 1: Focus on the Now

1. Start with your name and current experience.
2. Give a brief highlight of your professional journey.
3. Connect your history with your interest in tech.
4. Share why you are interested in and how you are a good fit for this job.



Template 2: Focus on Career Path

1. Start with a brief highlights reel (3 things tops) of your history, commenting on top strengths/skills used along the way.
2. Share your current role or experience including skills you are currently developing.
3. Express interest in the role and connect it to your skillset and passion for tech.



Template 3: Focus on Passion and Skills

1. Start with sharing your passion for tech and how you became interested.
2. Tie in strengths and skills you have and how they relate to tech.
3. Highlight your project and current skill-building endeavors.
4. Connect this passion to the specific role.



Closing Info



COME ON, WE'RE ALMOST THERE.

In-Class Activity

1. Draft your “Tell me about yourself” response
2. Share in your project group
3. Provide brief feedback
4. Revise
5. Repeat 2 and 3



Looking Ahead to Interview Day 2

- Answering questions
- Asking questions
- Practice time
- What to expect for Interview Day (12/21)
 - Behavioral & Technical
 - With a volunteer
 - Real-time feedback
 - Scores within 2 weeks of the event



Reminder!

Resumes due today

Project Checkpoint is 12/18

Interview Day is 12/21





Questions?

- Post general questions in Slack channel, tagging me, Colin, and Lexi
- Tag me in a post in your group channels with your video chat prior to 7pm if your group wants me to jump in to your chat for a minute
- Lexi is jumping on to provide some additional clarification about projects