SIMULATED INTERVIEW:

1. Tell me about yourself.

Well, what would you like to know about me?

- I am a third-year student at the University of Ottawa, I'm studying software engineering with the option of management and entrepreneurship. I've been a committed player with the Kanata basketball association for 6 years now. I am hard-working and very organized.

2. What do you hope to be doing once you graduate?

Once I graduate, I hope to have a stable job that pays well. I would also prefer it to be a job that I like doing, because once I graduate it's all about doing everything that I like. I'm considering a Master's too.

3. Why did you apply to this particular position? What do you know about us?

CEG side:

I applied to this particular position because I wanted the hands-on experience outside of the classroom. I've learned about R&D but I'm interested in practicing it and trying it out for myself. Although this is more hardware related than what I am used to, I want the chance to experience technology from a hardware side.

SEG side:

I applied to this particular position because I wanted the hands-on experience outside of the classroom. Being in the software engineering field myself, I've done a few programming projects. I've been programming in Java in school since grade 10 (talk about the OCRI pilot project). I went ahead and learned a bit of C when I was in grade 11 too. I've worked on projects that took a week to create and projects that took 4 months to make. I am very open to learning new skills, and I am a pretty quick learner as well. I've worked on product verification in my last term, where I wrote test cases and bug reports.

4. Tell me about your knowledge or experience related to this position.

CEG side:

I don't have too much experience in hardware to-date, but I have done a few things. I've taken part in workshops where they taught us how to take apart blackberries and desktop computers and put them back together again (and without any screws being left over when we were done!). I've done a little bit of trouble-shooting in high school. On the other hand, my transferables include analytical skills, and self-teaching skills, of course with the help of google :)

SEG side:

Although I have never learned C#, I have quite a bit of programming experience. Like I mentioned, I've programmed in Java, C and ActionScript before. In grade 10 I made an educational game for underprevileded children in third-world countries in Java. In grade 11 I made my own application mimicking the classic "MadLibs" game. And in grade 12, I worked on a 4-month long project where we created a game using ActionScript that was entirely designed by grade 3 students. So they were our "clients". It was a bit more challenging too because we had to make the game educational as well, so we had to somehow find a way for the requests given to us for the game to be a teaching tool.

5. Name three strengths you possess.

My first strength would have to be co-operation. I am very cooperative with others on group-projects, for example. I like to "keep the peace" between members of the group, so compromising is something I often do. Secondly, I like to keep everything organized, because it just makes everything that much easier. Lastly, I am determined. When I set my mind to something, like for example debugging software, I make sure to get it done no matter how many hours it takes! haha

6. Tell me about your customer service skills.

Well, I was a gas station/convenience store attendant for a year, so I had to deal with lots of customers, most of which who were travelling once, and serve them to best of my ability. We've had customers who were lost and we had to help them find their way, we had others who ran out of gas down the street and needed some gas urgently, we've even had a couple who couldn't pay for their gas so we had a strong trust between us and our customers.

I'm actually also an executive member of the IEEE uOttawa Student Branch; I am personally Chair of the Student Branch. We have bi-weekly meetings and at least one major event per semester, we try really hard to connect with the students in our faculty.

7. If I were to ask your colleagues/classmates what area you would benefit from improving upon, what would they say?

Uh... They would say that I definitely have a hard time prioritizing myself. This is bad because it obviously leads to lots of stress. But, nevertheless, at the end of the day, I do get all of the jobs done. I've been working hard at fixing this though. I have an agenda that I TRY to use, and as often as possible set reminders on my phone. I also try to set earlier deadlines so that I can get the work done ahead of time, and often save me from over-stressing at the last minute.

8. Tell me about where you had to deal with multiple projects in a tight deadline.

^ see above.

9. Why should we hire you.

You should hire me because I believe that I would bring a great and positive attitude to the workplace, and I would bring energy and spirit to work with me every day, hopefully creating a different atmosphere for my co-workers. I'd also hope that my eagerness to learn would be inspiring or maybe amusing for my co-workers to have. Basically, I'd like to leave a good impression on them by the end of my work-term.

10. Do you have any questions for me/us?

Yes actually, I do. I was wondering, what is the physical environment like in this office? How many people work here? Also, would there be other students working here?

THANKS A LOT FOR YOUR TIME, I REALLY ENJOYED MEETING YOU. I HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT DAY.

=D