

Interview Practice Questions

General Questions

- Walk me through your resume.
- Tell me about yourself.
- Why do you want to work in industry x?
- Why do you think you would be successful in this industry?
- Why should we hire you?
- Describe your ideal job.
- What was your favorite class and why?
- If you had the opportunity to do one thing differently what would you change?
- You have 30 seconds to convince me to hire you go!

Personal Goals and Accomplishments

- What are your strengths/weaknesses? (Have at least 3 examples for each)
- What is your proudest accomplishment?
- What are you passionate about?
- Which new goals have you established for yourself recently?
- What has been your most challenging experience?
- Where do you see yourself in 5 years? 10 years?
- Describe a failure. What did you learn from it?
- Do you have anything else to tell me about yourself?

Teamwork/Collaboration

- Have you held leadership roles in extracurricular activities? How did you lead? Give an example.
- Describe a time when you had to influence another student/peer to cooperate with you. What did you say?
- Describe a situation where you were able to help out a peer or team member.
- Which bosses have you worked most effectively for? Why? Which bosses have been the hardest to work for?
- Describe an incident where you had a clash/disagreement with someone in your work/school.
- Give me an example of a time when you were able to work effectively with a person from a cultural background that was very different from yours.
- Have you ever been in a group with an uncooperative or unproductive person? How did you handle this?
- Describe the last time you were criticized by your instructor or boss. What was the situation? How did you handle it? How do you get along now?
- What do you do when someone else takes credit for your idea?

Technical/Professional Knowledge

- Describe how you've gone about learning a new technical skill.
- What information is available for your career search and how have you used it?

Communications

- What difficulties have you encountered in trying to communicate technical information?
- Tell me about a time when you were most persuasive in overcoming resistance to your point of view.
- Give me an example of an argument, which you lost, and what you did about it.



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Practical Learning

- Describe a course in which you felt challenged. How did you do, and what did you learn from the experience?
- Describe a time when you had difficulty learning something complex.
- Tell me about a time when you were able to treat a negative experience as a learning opportunity?
- Give me an example of a time when you first resisted a change at work and then accepted it.

Analysis/Problem Assessment (defining a problem)

- Have you ever recognized a problem before your boss or others in your department/team?
- Describe the most difficult trouble-shooting challenge you have had.
- Describe the biggest problems you have faced in the recent past.
- What is the hardest thing you have ever done?

Judgment/Problem Solving (solving a problem)

- Which types of decisions do you tend to make rapidly, and which ones do you take more time on? Give some examples.
- Tell me about a decision you have made which was the wrong one, and what you did about it.
- Give an example of a time when you used logic to solve a very difficult problem. What decision have you had to think about the longest before deciding what to do? Why was it difficult?
- What were the alternatives? Was it a good decision in the end?

Initiative

- Give an example of ways you have found to make your work easier.
- Can you think of a situation you had to handle in which old solutions didn't work?
- Describe a situation where you were able to make a difference (i.e., where something was accomplished that would not have been if you weren't there)
- Give an example of doing more than is required in your current classes.
- Tell me about your most innovative project or assignment. What did you do that was resourceful? How did it turn out?
- Tell me about a project you initiated.

Planning and Organizing/Work Management

- Tell me about a time when your course load was heaviest. How did you get all your work done?
- If you are balancing a part-time job with full-time school, how do you prioritize your activities?
- We have all had occasions when we were working on something that just "slipped through the cracks." Can you give me an example of when this happened to you? Cause? Results?

Motivational Fit

- What are your standards of success in your school?
- What have you done to meet these standards?
- What conditions are most frustrating to you?
- Have you ever worked on a project you didn't enjoy?
- Describe the last goal you set for yourself that you feel particularly proud of. What happened?