

Working Interview

Course: **Intellectual Heritage II**

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Zoom recording link: [click here](https://temple.zoom.us/rec/share/96HddFfUdGeZQ2UlwCrPMtr9iICulwLpb4dnWFqETadUSxsXqsQ0DWV_b58ZwqIO.3znJij3WGl2YiMM3?startTime=1713320771000)

Table of Contents

[Question 1: Describe the job. What do you do? How long is a typical work day? Do you work at home, on site or hybrid? Explain. 3](#_Toc164204798)

[Question 2: What training and/or education did you receive to perform your job? Do you feel that your training or education was sufficient for this job? What surprises came up in the work that your education or training never addressed? 3](#_Toc164204799)

[Question 3: Do you like your job? Why or why not? If you could be doing something else, what would you do? Why? 4](#_Toc164204800)

[Question 4: Do you feel that the pay you receive is adequate to the demands or your job? Why or why not? (Note: the person does not have to disclose what they earn if it makes them uncomfortable.) 4](#_Toc164204801)

[Question 5: Do you get health benefits from your work? What other benefits do you get, if any? 5](#_Toc164204802)

[Question 6: How does your job affect your relationships with the people closest to you? (Partner, family member(s), close friends). The interviewee can choose one of the above for their answer. 5](#_Toc164204803)

[Question 7: Do you consider this job to be your career? What is a career to you? How would you distinguish a job from a career? 6](#_Toc164204804)

[Question 8: Do you ever feel threatened into losing the job? (layoffs, competition) If the person is retired, ask them to explain if they ever felt insecure about keeping their job? 6](#_Toc164204805)

# Transcription

Jakob: "Hello! My name is Jacob Werle, and this is the working interview for IH 2."

Jakob: "Would you like to introduce who you are? And our relationship."

Valerie: "Okay, I am Valerie Worrell, and I am Jacob World's mom."

## Question 1: Describe the job. What do you do? How long is a typical work day? Do you work at home, on site or hybrid? Explain.

Jakob: "Alright. Let's get started with some questions. Could you describe your job? What you do? How long your typical work day is, and do you work at home like? Is it hybrid or at a site."

Valerie: "Sure, my job is officially called a radiologic technologist. I specialize in CAT scan. I do not work from home; I have to work outside the home. Obviously, to do this, you need devices that produce radiation. So they're usually in the hospital or a clinic. A typical work day for me is usually an 8-hour shift, which can be a day shift, 7 to 3, 8 to 4:30, for a second shift, 3 to 11:30, or a night shift, 11 PM to 7 AM. Some of us, not necessarily me, but some of my coworkers work 12-hour shifts. We work Monday through Friday, weekends, holidays. The hospital operates 24/7."

## Question 2: What training and/or education did you receive to perform your job? Do you feel that your training or education was sufficient for this job? What surprises came up in the work that your education or training never addressed?

Jakob: "Oops. Question 2. What training and/or education did you receive to perform your job? Do you feel that your training was sufficient? And what surprises came up like through education or training that was never addressed."

Valerie: "When I went to school for this, there were different ways we could do it. You could go and just take a course through a hospital and basically get trained on the job. And then you were allowed to sit for your boards. But you have to pass boards to be a registered radiologic technologist. I decided to get an associate's degree. So I went to college, actually for 3 years, because so many people were going into this field at the time that I had to wait a year on a waiting list to get in. So when I finally got in, I got my associate's degree, set for my boards, and then began working. Some people get a bachelor's degree in this. Usually, you only do that if you're gonna move up into management, though. Nowadays, you have to go through certain courses. You can't just learn on the job, like we used to. We became certified in CAT scan by taking another board, which that was learned on the job also. Nowadays, you can't really do that like you did. Now you have to take courses through accredited programs. But I pretty much felt somewhat ready for my job when I was kind of set free from my program where I learned how to do this. But healthcare and taking care of people is you can't really plan for everything that's gonna happen. So every learning something new and you kind of don't know what you don't know until you're in that situation learning it. Something that it was. So, yeah, I wasn't really prepared for was probably how to deal with things emotionally that I saw that were terrible. Some of the terrible and like with child abuse. We would have to scan and X-ray children that were abused. That was really hard to know how to deal with that. I remember one time with a 16-year-old that was basically brain dead because he fell out of back the jeep, and I will mother. And to see him she just was besides herself crying, and they had decided to donate his body, and we would have to take X-rays every 2 hours on him. Make sure the lungs were okay and that was difficult because just looking at him, knowing he was gonna die. And what was gonna happen to him. Things like that are we're hard to deal with and nobody for that. So that's probably like the hardest stuff."

## Question 3: Do you like your job? Why or why not? If you could be doing something else, what would you do? Why?

Jakob: "Well, I guess that kind of leads into our next question. Do you like your job? Why or why not?"

Valerie: "Umm."

Jakob: "Yeah. Oh, go ahead. Sorry."

Jakob: "I was just gonna say, if if you didn't do this, what else would you? what do you think it would do."

Valerie: "Okay? So I do like my job. Every day is different. Every hour is different. It's not mundane at all, because you're dealing with humans and when you're working alongside an emergency room, you never know what you're gonna get. I do like it. Sometimes it can be a lot. We're very, very busy and trying to stay up on all the patience and getting the work done can be difficult, and that can be stressful when we're short-staffed. I feel you asked me."

Jakob: "So if you didn't do this, what would you be doing."

Valerie: "So if I didn't do this, that's a tough question. Well, for one, I wanted to be a stay-at-home mom. That was what I really wanted for my kind of career, if you wanna call it. That's what I wanted to do more than anything. But that's not technically a career job. So that's why I went with the account. If I wasn't doing this and my dream job would probably be teaching CAT scan if I could. A long time. But nowadays you have to have a master's degree to do that. That made it difficult to, you know, go back into school to do that."

Jakob: "Let's move on to the next question."

## Question 4: Do you feel that the pay you receive is adequate to the demands or your job? Why or why not? (Note: the person does not have to disclose what they earn if it makes them uncomfortable.)

Jakob: "So, oh, you'll like this one. Do you feel that your pay is adequate for the demands of your job. Why, why not."

Valerie: "Okay. So at right now, living in Scranton, Pennsylvania, I do not feel my pay is where it should be. And the reason I say that is, when we used to live near Baltimore, Maryland, on, I made close to maybe 35, $40 an hour. Depending on what shift I was working on. and I, Baltimore, approximately 15 years ago, and I am just now hitting that pay in Scranton. It's taken me 15 years. What I made when I left Baltimore because the pay up here is so crappy on. That's why I'm working a lot of us are working to fight that to get our pay where it needs to be."

Valerie: "It's geographical when you live near the bigger cities, like Philly, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, New York City. the bigger cities you, you make more money, and that's usually because there's more hospitals and clinics. So the turnover rate is very high, like, if if you don't like what you make, you don't like your job. You just switch and go somewhere else, and then they'll pay you more. Get you there? Then the other hospital has to update to pull people to there, so that kind of keeps the rates up higher. But when you live in like a rural area like we do there's not a turnover, you know, like most. Writer. Work with have worked there 20 plus years. or the younger people only stay for a few years and then leave. But the people that stay forever, and there's just no turnover. So they haven't had to up to pay, because nobody's going anywhere, you know."

## Question 5: Do you get health benefits from your work? What other benefits do you get, if any?

Jakob: "Do you also get benefits."

Valerie: "I do get benefits. I'm only a part-time worker, but I work pretty much full-time hours. I could I they do give me benefits where I could buy into the health insurance if I wanted to, at a higher rate, because I'm part-time but because your Dad has such good health insurance because he's a teacher. We use his health insurance. But okay. Guys singer also offers vision dental. I have a 401 K that I can contribute to that. They they will match 6% up to 6% of what I put in there. So that's good. I get some paid time off. We don't get sick days, which is what's kind of ridiculous. But they give us personal day, personal time off days they call. And vacation time. I earn that I get so much time for every hour I work."

## Question 6: How does your job affect your relationships with the people closest to you? (Partner, family member(s), close friends). The interviewee can choose one of the above for their answer.

Jakob: "Alright, a bit of a pivot. Now, how does your job affect your relationship with people around you, especially the closest people. Maybe you could choose one person to describe that."

Valerie: "And Kay. Well, I can pick Jeff right now. so my job affects your brother because for example, right now we're very short staffed. So this week I had I don't even know how many extra hours over time. 16, maybe over time. So I worked like I don't even know I I work a lot, so I haven't hardly seen your brother all week. so he's kind of himself. He's having to make himself dinner, drive himself to all his games. I missed his games. His volleyball games. It affected him also because he had it ingrown. I just I don't know if you want to know this or not for your for this interview. But he had the in grown toenail that was bad. Probably like a week and a half ago, and today was the first time I was off in order to take him to the doctor, so that, like affects him and the whole family when I work so much so it it can make things difficult, you know. And and My family time is very important to me. So That's why I tried to work part-time. so it doesn't affect the family."

## Question 7: Do you consider this job to be your career? What is a career to you? How would you distinguish a job from a career?

Jakob: "Would you consider that this job is your career? And secondly, maybe you can. Or maybe you can start by telling me what a career is to you."

Valerie: "Yeah. So to me, a career is something that you. a job that you go into, that you are in for the long haul. something that you fall into, that you enjoy. that you're going to advance yourself in you're gonna climb the ladder a little bit. It's something, you know, like you, you you do it for a long time, but you'd like it, too, and it's what you wanted to do. So for me. I feel it is a career like I I started off out of X-ray school. you know, right out of college started doing X-rays. Then I advanced myself by learning Caspian. I sat for my boards for that. I worked a lot while, you guys. we're little. And then I stayed a little bit, but then it came back into it. And now that you guys are getting older, I'm working more on. I also noticed, you know, that I've been in this field longer. Now I feel comfortable. training new people and speaking up in my job where I didn't used to do that. No, it used to be, I would just come or could go home, but now I feel more invested in it. So right good. I mean."

## Question 8: Do you ever feel threatened into losing the job? (layoffs, competition) If the person is retired, ask them to explain if they ever felt insecure about keeping their job?

Jakob: "Well, we can move on to our final question. Which is. have you ever felt threatened by losing your job from anything, from layoffs to competition. Done."

Valerie: "I really haven't felt threatened in my job very often. What I do it. We're always needed. It's very rare that we are over staffed. we're always understaffed. So that's never been an issue."

Valerie: "One thing, when I early on in my career, I used to get really nervous that I would lose my job. but that was because I was not confident in what I was doing, and I was afraid of being up to the fired. Nowadays I know better, you know I'm more confident, and I also have learned, like not what I could get away with. That's not the right word. But you know, if you make work, it's just a mistake, and you move on, you learn from it, and you move on. whereas before I would just like. Oh, my God, I made a mistake. The radiologist is gonna yell at me. You know. I'm gonna get fired, you know. I I would get really, really, really upset about it. And now I just I don't."