

## Sample Interview Questions

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Practice responding to these interview questions as you prepare for your upcoming interview.

### Behavioral Questions

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*Many employers use a behavioral interview style of questioning. The goal is to see how you react in various situations and the key is to be prepared to respond with an example from your own set of experiences.*

Use the **STAR** system to respond:

S/T: describe the specific **Situation**/detail the **Task**

A: share the **Action** you took

R: and describe the **Results** and what you **learned**.

1. Give me an example of the most complex assignment or project you have worked on. What was your role? What was the result of the project?
2. If you were to list your accomplishments on this job three years from now, what would they be?
3. Give an example of an obstacle you have overcome in the past.
4. Describe a project that you initiated. How did you go about organizing it and what was the outcome? How could you have planned it differently to get better results?
5. Give me examples of two good decisions you have made in the last six months. What were the alternatives? Why were they good decisions?
6. Tell me about the most complex formal presentation you have made while in school. How did you go about preparing it and how did it turn out?
7. Give an example of a problem you faced and the steps you took to resolve it? Did they work? Why or why not?
8. Describe your most successful experience working on a team project. How did you relate to other team members and what did you contribute to the success?
9. What was the most innovative project you've been involved with? What part did you play?
10. What are your standards of success? Give a recent example where you applied them.
11. Describe a time when you had to perform under the pressure of time or task difficulty. What happened?
12. Describe a time when you had to make a difficult choice. Discuss the process and what you learned.
13. Describe a time where you faced an ethical dilemma. What did you do? What was the outcome?
14. Describe a time when you followed a process carefully in order to be successful. Describe your decision making through this process.
15. Discuss a time where you led a group or team. Discuss the skills you used to positively influence the group.
16. Provide an example of how you acquired a technical skill and converted it into a practical application.
17. Think of a situation where you distrusted a co-worker/supervisor/classmate, resulting in tension between you. What steps did you take to improve the relationship?
18. Discuss a time where you convinced an individual to do something that s/he didn't want to do. What was the outcome?

### Other Questions

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1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Why our organization? Why this position?
3. What do you consider to be your greatest strengths? Weaknesses?
4. What experiences and skills are a fit for this position? Our organization?

5. Of which accomplishments are you most proud?
6. How does your college education or work experience relate to this job?
7. Why should we hire you rather than another candidate?
8. Where do you want to be in five years? Ten years?
9. Discuss your ideal supervisor.
10. How would you contribute and add value to a work team?
11. Why did you choose your major?
12. Why did you choose to attend Meredith College?
13. If you were to start over, what would you change about your education?
14. Do your grades accurately reflect your ability? Why or why not?

### **Questions for Teacher Candidates**

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1. What is your philosophy of education? Of classroom management?
2. What issues in education are of greatest concern to you? Why?
3. Describe the role of the teacher in the learning process.
4. What is the role of the teacher in the community?
5. How would you integrate technology into your classroom?
6. How would you help to develop a student's critical thinking skills?
7. What does collaboration look like in your classroom? With your fellow teachers? With administrators?
8. How would you individualize instruction in your classroom?
9. How would you set up a program in your major teaching area?
10. Why do you want to teach?
11. Describe yourself using 5 adjectives.
12. What special abilities do you have that would benefit your students?
13. Describe a time that you failed.
14. How did you get interested in the field of education?
15. Do you grade on ability or effort? Why?
16. If you found out the slower learners in the class could not read the grade-level book, what would you do?
17. How do you handle discipline in your classroom?
18. Tell me about your teaching experience.
19. Describe in detail a lesson that you taught.
20. Define the role of the principal.
21. What youth-related activities have you been involved with? Are you interested in working with students in an extra-curricular activity?
22. Describe your teaching style and motivational theories.

### **Sample Questions to Ask an Employer**

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1. What would it take to exceed your expectations for this position?
2. Does the company promote from within or externally?
3. Can you tell me how different departments at the company work together?
4. Describe the duties of the job and how it fits in the organization.
5. What is the profile of a successful employee in your organization?
6. What is the supervisory style of the manager who oversees this position?
7. How are performance reviews conducted?
8. What are some recent challenges and opportunities faced by your organization?
9. What kinds of opportunities exist for me to improve my professional skills within the organization?
10. Can you tell me the next step in the selection process?

11. Will you discuss the hiring timeline for this position? The organization's next steps?
12. If I don't hear from you in \_\_\_\_\_ weeks as you mentioned, may I give you a call to follow up?

**Do not ask questions that you could find out with research beforehand.**