

Interview Questions

QUESTIONS ASKED BY EMPLOYERS

Personal

- Tell me about yourself.
- What are your strengths?
- Tell me about a weakness/area of improvement.
- What motivates you to put forth your greatest effort?
- Describe your ideal job.
- What was the last book you read?

Education

- Why did you choose to attend UIC?
- Why did you choose your major?
- How has your college experience prepared you for this job?
- Do your grades accurately reflect your ability? Why or why not?
- What have you gained from your extracurricular activities that will enable your success in our company?

Experience

- What did you enjoy most about your last employment? Least?
- Tell me about a team project in which you are particularly proud and describe your contribution.
- Give me an example of a problem you solve and the process you used.
- Tell me about a situation in which you showed initiative.
- Describe a time when you were not satisfied or pleased with your performance. What did you do about it?
- Tell me about a time when you had to handle multiple responsibilities and how you managed the situation.
- Give me an example of an important goal that you had set and tell me about your success in reaching it.
- Give me an example of a time when you had a deadline to meet and how you handled the pressure.

Character

- Describe one of the biggest mistakes you made in college. What did you learn?
- Tell me about a time when you had to work with someone who was difficult and how you handled it.
- How do you think a former supervisor would describe you?
- What characteristics do you think are important for this position?
- How did you manage work and school?

Growth

- What do you see yourself doing in five years? Ten years?
- What goals have you set for yourself? How are you planning to achieve them?
- Do you plan to continue your education?

Fit

- Describe your ideal work environment.
- Why are you interested in this position?
- What attracts you to our organization, and why do you want to work here?
- Why do you think you'll be a good fit for this company?
- Do you prefer to work under supervision or on your own?
- What kind of boss do you prefer?
- Are you considering other positions? What types?
- How do you feel about working overtime?

Last Questions

- Why should we hire you over other qualified candidates?
- What questions do you have for me?

SOURCES:

- Fry, Ron. *101 Smart Questions to Ask on Your Interview*. 3rd edition. Course Technology Press, 2009.
- Britton Whitcomb, Susan. *Interview Magic*. Jist Works, 2005.