

Examples of interview questions

All companies interview in different ways, however the types of questions asked in interviews tend to be fairly similar. Employers tend to ask questions about you, your work experience, your strengths and weaknesses and what you know about their company. Therefore, it's a good idea to prepare some answers to these types of questions so when they come up you know exactly what to say!

See below for some examples of interview questions.

Questions about the employer

During interviews employers will try to determine if you have a genuine interest in working for them. To do this they will ask questions such as:

- What do you know about our company?
- Why do you want to work for us?
- Why do you think you are the right fit for our company?

In order to prepare for these questions you must do your research. Take a look at the company's website and try to memorise a few facts about them. Make sure you understand what products and services they offer so you can talk about them if asked.

Questions about you

Most interviews will start with questions about you, employers will use these questions to find out a bit more about you and will help them to decide if you would be a good fit for their company. They may ask questions such as:

- Can you tell us a bit about yourself?
- What do you do in your spare time?
- Do you have any hobbies or interests?

Use your answers to reflect what personal skills and qualities you possess. For instance, if you play team sports you could say how this has helped to develop your team working and communication skills. If you enjoy drawing or painting you can use these hobbies to show that you're a creative person.

When preparing answers for these questions, consider the job description and person specification and try to reflect some of the desired skills mentioned in your answers.

Questions about your work experience

A lot of questions you will get asked in an interview will be around your work history to enable you to talk about your experience and relate it to the position you are applying for. Some questions you may be asked include:

- Tell us about a time you faced a challenging situation.
- What is your greatest achievement at work?
- Tell us about a time something went wrong, and how did you rectify the situation?

If you don't have much work experience to talk about you can use examples from outside of work such as school projects, volunteering or anything else you can apply to the job description. Be sure to talk about your experience positively and match your examples to the skills the employer is looking for.

Questions about your strengths

The strengths employers are looking for will vary between companies and job positions, the key attributes they are looking for are normally outlined in the job description. To determine your personal strengths employers may ask:

- Why do you think you are the right candidate for this position?
- What would you say are your main strengths?

It is a good idea to plan 2 to 3 answers for questions like these and try use specific examples that indicate your strengths.

Questions about your weakness

Employers will also ask questions around your weaknesses to see if they think you are qualified for the job. They may ask:

- What is your greatest weakness?

There are a number of ways you can respond to this question. For instance, you can talk honestly about skills that aren't critical for the job role, talk about a skill you have improved on as you have identified it as a weak area or try and turn something seemingly negative into a positive.

Just remember that even though the question is about weaknesses, your answer should always be framed around the positive aspects of your skills and abilities as an employee. Again, it is good to plan 2 to 3 answers for these questions and use examples where you can.

For more examples of interview questions, take a look here:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/get-a-job/top-10-interview-questions>