

# Common Interview Questions

You don't need us to tell you how daunting interviews can be! To help alleviate your nerves, we have put together a list of popular questions asked by interviewers so that you can handle tough questions with confidence.

## HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF?

Start by describing your current (or most recent) job, some highlights from your career history and any educational achievements.

## WHAT ARE YOUR WEAKNESSES?

There are two ways you can go about answering this:

One approach is to analyse the key skills required for the position, and come up with an honest short-coming which is not essential in that role.

Another option is to discuss a skill that you have improved on, showing that you are capable of making improvements.

## WHAT ARE YOUR STRENGTHS?

Don't choose obvious answers such as being timely and organised, as you want to stand out.

Think about some work-related strengths, as well as positive personality qualities, and be prepared to back these up with examples.

This is a great opportunity to sell yourself, so don't be modest!

## WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 5 YEARS?

An interviewer wants to ensure that if they employ you, you will stay with them for the long haul.

You want to show your ambition, but it is important to stay realistic. Describe specific goals you would like to achieve, such as lead a major project or help the company turn profit.

## HOW DO YOU MANAGE YOUR TIME?

This question is to get to know your tactics for getting organised, so whatever approach you use for prioritising your tasks, be ready to describe it.

You should indicate that you are able to adjust your priorities if you are given new tasks or if situations change.

## WHAT DO YOU DISLIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

This is designed to catch out anyone who complains too much. You need to ensure that you come across as positive as possible when facing difficulties.

Start by highlighting the positives, and explain how you have worked around your dislikes.

## HOW DO YOU COPE UNDER PRESSURE?

Give examples of how you have handled pressure in previous jobs. This gives the interviewer an idea of how well you work in stressful situations.

It might be helpful to consider mentioning how a little bit of pressure can be a motivator for you to become a more creative and productive worker.

## ARE YOU APPLYING FOR OTHER JOBS?

There are a couple of ways to answer this. You can say that you are being realistic and may not get this job. But emphasise that other jobs you are applying for are in similar areas and sectors.

Or, you could say that you have other interviews lined up, but you think that this particular role is a great match for your skills and background.