

Interview Preparation

Personal Questions

The sample answers below are responses that might be used for the **Interview Questions** worksheet.

These responses were suggested by students preparing for interview.

Read through, think of each question carefully, and add your own answer where you think appropriate.

Sample Answers

1. Why do you want to do this course/apply for this job?

I'm interested in getting a qualification.....If I can, I would hope to continue my studies and get further qualifications.

I have a special interest in..... because..... I think I would be good at..... I liked/ enjoyed these subjects at school/college.

I have a lot of experience in I did this type of work before..... I worked in a similar environment in..... for _____ years.....***(be able to describe your previous experience clearly)***

2. How do you think you will fit in in this environment?

I feel I have the qualifications for this job

I have some previous experience in this type of work***(be able to describe your previous experience clearly)***

I think I am suited to this kind of work.....I like working with machines/figures/engines/ computers/ the public/ children/in sales etc. etc.

3. Can you adapt easily to new situations?

I believe I can adapt easily..... I have no problem learning new skills..... I would like to learn new skills..... Moving to a new country has made me adaptable and open to new experiences and a different environment..... I had to make adjustments to my life and I have an open mind.....I'm interested in meeting new people and learning new ideas..... I'm willing to learn and retrain.

4. Do you like working as part of a team?

I enjoy working with other people and feeling part of a team..... It's good in terms of backup and support and sharing the responsibilities and also learning from your workmates, learning new skills and work practices.

5. How do you feel about working on your own?

I'm fairly independent..... I'm able to work on my own initiative..... It gives you greater job satisfaction when you are trusted with projects and tasks and also you feel in control of your job when you are given responsibility..... It makes it more interesting and you can take pride in your work.

6. Do you like having a lot of responsibility?

Yes. I do. I feel more motivated and interested in my work when I am given responsibility..... I like making decisions and seeing a job through to the end..... If you are given responsibility it leads to greater job satisfaction..... It's more satisfying when you decide how something should be done rather than following instructions.

7. Do you like dealing with the public?

Yes, I like meeting people..... I have no problem dealing with the public..... Most people are ok if you are polite and helpful.

8. What do you consider are your main strengths?

I'm a hard worker..... I'm punctual..... I can take responsibility.... I'm willing to learn and train.....I'm willing to work hardI can learn quickly.....I'm interested in learning a new skill/skills.....I'm adaptable.....I'm flexible.....I get on well with people.....I would like to improve my situation and get on well..... I want to get a worthwhile job and keep it.

9. What do you consider are your main weaknesses?

I'm anxious to find secure employment..... I need to keep working on my English. When you are new to a country it can be difficult finding out about jobs and courses and getting the right advice..... Sometimes you are at a disadvantage.

10. What advantages do you associate with this course/job?

This job will give me a chance to get started..... to get valuable experience..... to increase my confidence..... to learn new skills. It will help me to become more independent.....It will help my personal development and develop my ability..... It will give me security and confidence in the future..... It's a very reputable company/college and I think it would be good for my career into the future.....a step forward in my work and career. It will give me an opportunity to advance myself and learn more about.....

11. What difficulties do you foresee in this course/job?

I don't see any difficulty other than getting used to how the company operates.....how the work is done....the systems and work practices.....finding my way and getting to know the staff.....how the organisation operates..... who is my boss.....who I report towho monitors my work etc... Once I settle in I don't foresee that I will have a problem..... I intend to work/study hard..... I will give it my best shot.....

12. Are you interested in promotion?

Yes I would like to get promotion when I have had a few years experience..... I would like to feel that I am making progress in my career and also that I would improve my earnings eventually.

13. Do you consider yourself to be ambitious?

I suppose I am.....I probably am.....Yes definitely.....I'd like to develop myself and be able to take on more responsibility. I'd also like to earn more money in the future and to have more security for my family.

14. How important is job satisfaction for you?

It's very important to enjoy the work you do and to have an interest in all aspects of it..... If you are interested and committed to your job you work better and you feel satisfied with what you do.....

