Common Traditional Interview Questions



- 1. Tell me about yourself.
- 2. Why did you choose a career in ______?
- 3. Why would you be successful in _____?
- 4. What courses did you like best? Least? Why?
- 5. Why are you interested in this position?
- 6. Why should I hire you?
- 7. What do you think it takes to be successful in a company like ours?
- 8. What suggestions do you have for our organization?
- 9. Why did you decide to seek a position with this company?
- 10. What are your strongest/weakest personal qualities?
- 11. What is the biggest mistake you've made and what did you learn from it?
- 12. What skills, experience, and training do you have that make you qualified for the position?
- 13. What are your short-term career goals and how does this position fit with those?
- 14. How would a professor or previous employer who knows you well describe you?
- 15. What would the people who work with you say about your job performance?
- 16. If you were hiring for this position what qualities would you look for?
- 17. What is the most significant contribution you made during your internship/co-op?
- 18. What have you learned from participation in extracurricular activities?
- 19. What awards and honors have you received?
- 20. What do you do in your spare time?
- 21. How do you best motivate others?
- 22. What leadership roles have you held?
- 23. What accomplishments have given you the most satisfaction? Why?
- 24. Describe your most rewarding college experience.
- 25. Do you have plans for continued study? An advanced degree?
- 26. Do you feel your grades are a good indication of your academic success?
- 27. How do you stay professionally current?
- 28. With what types of people do you work best?
- 29. What type of relationship should exist between supervisor and employees?
- 30. How would you describe the ideal job for you following graduation?
- 31. In what kind of work environment are you most comfortable?
- 32. How do you work under pressure?
- 33. What two or three things are most important to you in your job?
- 34. What major problems have you encountered and how did you deal with them?
- 35. If your career demanded it, would you be willing relocate for advancement?
- 36. Do you have a geographical preference? Why?
- 37. Are you willing to travel for this position?
- 38. What are your salary requirements?

Questions to Ask Employers

- 1. Does your company provide any financial assistance for further education?
- 2. What kinds of assignments might I expect the first six months on the job?
- 3. What products or services are in the development state right now?
- 4. What are your growth projections for next year?
- 5. Have you cut your staff in the last three years?
- 6. In what ways is a career with your company better than one with your competitors?
- 7. Is this a new position or am I replacing someone?
- 8. What is the largest single problem facing your staff/department now?
- 9. May I talk with the last person who held this position?
- 10. What do you (the interviewer) like best about your job/company?
- 11. How much authority will I have over decision?
- 12. What qualities are you looking for in the candidate who fills this position?
- 13. What skills are especially important for someone in this position?
- 14. What special projects will I have the opportunity to work on?