

18 Answer Common Interview Questions

TRANSITION OBJECTIVE

Students will prepare their own answers to the 10 most common interview questions.

RELEVANCE TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

The success of an interview is dependent upon the preparation of the job seeker. Anticipating questions and preparing brief but thorough answers to those questions is critical to completing the interview successfully.

INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE

❑ STEP 1: Update Journal

I prepare for important events by . . .

❑ STEP 2: Convene Roundtable

"One reason to prepare for a job interview is ____."

❑ STEP 3: Advance Organizer

"Today you will prepare your own answers to the 10 most common interview questions."

❑ STEP 4: Activity - First Day

Go over the handout **Ten Most Common Interview Questions** with students. After you read the questions, discuss the possible answers and review information from Lesson 17. Explain that developing their own answers for each question will prepare them for future practice interviews and for the real interview when it comes.

Read with the class the handout **Prepare for the Interview** and if necessary, offer ideas and make suggestions. Have students complete the handout and share their responses with a partner. They may want to refer to Lesson 11 to review their skills.

❑ STEP 5: Activity - Second Day

With the information from the handout students will prepare their answers to the most common interview questions and record them on the worksheet **Astonishing Answers!**

Again, walk students through this worksheet by going over each question, offering ideas and answering questions. Circulate through the room to give specific feedback to students. Students may wish to work together and may need more than one day on this activity.

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CAREER MANAGEMENT: Unit 2 LESSON 18

The Ten Most Common Interview Questions

1. Will you tell me something about yourself?
2. What experience have you had?
3. What strengths will you bring to this job?
4. What are your weaknesses?
5. Why should I hire you?
6. What do you plan to be doing in five years?
7. What will other people say about your work when I call for a reference?
8. Why are you looking for this type of position?
9. What sort of pay do you expect to receive?
10. What days and hours can you work?

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CAREER MANAGEMENT: Unit 2 LESSON 18

Prepare for the Interview

1. This is the job I want: _____
2. I have this training: _____
3. I have this experience: _____
4. Skills I have that will make me a good employee are:
(list skills in following categories)

- Physical work: _____
- Working with people: _____
- Working with information: _____
- Working with words or ideas: _____
- Working as a leader: _____
- Working creatively: _____

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CAREER MANAGEMENT: Unit 2 LESSON 18

Astonishing Answers!

1. Will you tell me something about yourself?
Background: _____
Employability skills: _____
Training: _____
Experience: _____

2. What experience have you had?
Training: _____
Experience: _____

3. What strengths will you bring to this job?
Training: _____
Employability skills: _____

4. What are your weaknesses?
Trait that can be considered a strength: _____

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Astonishing Answers!
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5. Why should I hire you?
Employability skills: _____
Training: _____
Experience: _____

6. What do you plan to be doing in five years?
Advancement related to this job: _____

7. What will other people say about your work when I call for a reference?
Employability skills: _____

8. Why are you looking for this type of position?
Your interest: _____
Training/Experience: _____

9. What sort of pay do you expect to receive?
Find out the salary range for this type of position before the interview. Prepare to negotiate.

10. What days and hours can you work?
Offer a flexible schedule: _____

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❑ STEP 6: Evaluate Outcomes

One important thing to share about myself in an interview is “_____.”

❑ STEP 7: Connecting Activity

Have students relate their astonishing answers to a friend or family member and ask for feedback, which they will share with a partner in class.

KEY WORDS

astonishing

experience

strength

weakness

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

- Student Handouts: **Ten Most Common Interview Questions**, page 95; **Prepare for the Interview**, page 96; **Astonishing Answers**, page 97-98.
- Prepare to become familiar with the **Ten Most Common Interview Questions**. Refer to Lessons 15-17 to prepare to answer the interview questions.
- Refer to Lesson 11 to help students examine their skills when preparing for the interview. Assist students with answering the interview questions and recognizing their own strengths and weaknesses.

SCANS FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Basic Academic Skills: Reading, Writing
- Thinking Skills: Creative Thinking
- Personal Qualities: Responsibility, Self-Esteem, Self-Management

REFLECTION

**BE PREPARED,
You never get a second chance to make a good first impression.
H. Jackson Brown, Jr.**

REFLECTION NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

