

PREPARE FOR YOUR «LIFE-CHANGING» INTERVIEW



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The interview is a stress factor for most of the candidates, and an interview in English is even more pressure. Even applicants with high-level English are often confused and stumble when getting asked simple questions. In order to avoid this, you must carefully prepare.

Firstly, you should make **a list of questions** that you personally would like to ask the employer during the interview.

Take your time and think over everything that interests you, like - housing, wages, tips, bonuses, vacation, sick leave etc. This will help you organize your thoughts and you can focus on the interview itself.

Place this list next to you at the interview so you don't forget anything and you get the complete information about the job. This also shows the employer that you are serious about the job.

How to ace an interview:

- ✓ Prepare your career story in short
- ✓ Know your interviewer
- ✓ Research the company
- ✓ Dress to impress
- ✓ Arrive early
- ✓ Follow up

Secondly, you need to practice answering the most frequently asked questions of any. Please find an indicative list of such below.



Could you please introduce yourself?

Approximate structure of answer:

- ✓ first and last name
- ✓ age
- ✓ education
- ✓ professional skills
- ✓ nationality and place of living

Keep in mind that the employer would like to hear about your skills or personal characteristics related to the job and what will make you successful at the job. Tell about yourself in short but always keep it connected to the role which you are applying for.



What are your strengths/weakness?

You should enumerate them, beginning with strengths (**about 5**), and ending with weaknesses (**max 3**).

Usually, the interviewer is not actually interested in what weakness it is. They are looking for self-awareness and your ability to develop and learn. Answer on this question honest but make sure that it does not affect your work.



Position yourself from the side that your weaknesses an area of potential are growth, and you are working on improving them.

What do you know about the country/city you are applying for?

Give general information about the country or city. Please, make research and note key points. This information will give you more confidence and will help you to make up your mind if it is a suitable country for you to move to.



Why do you want to work and live in the country/city you are applying for?

Giving information about the country and why you want to work there. Preferably describe success and career prospective of the place rather than personal reasons.

Why do you want to work in hospitality?

You should enumerate reasons why you like this sphere and why you see yourself working in hospitality. Remember, hospitality is people's business so positivity and having a «mission» to serve others would be a great advantage for your speech.



What do you know about our company?

Providing general information about the company, based on the survey of the company's official website. Always make your research!

If you don't know basic information about the company you are applying for – 99% your interview will fail.

Why do you want to work in our company?

Providing reasons why you want to work there, don't forget to praise the company and the possibilities to develop your career potential.

The biggest mistake is to say that you are looking for a better salary, more flexibility or just looking for a new job.



Why do you think you are suitable for this job? Why should we hire you?

You should provide convincing reasons, to ensure the employer, that you are the right candidate for them. Loyalty, hard work and dedication are what the majority of companies treasure the most.

Tell us about your past work experience?

You should tell only positive work experience. Even if you had a negative experience previously, no need to mention it, when starting your new bright career.

What were your main duties and responsibilities at previous work?

Enumerate main responsibilities on previous work. Try to concentrate on responsibilities that resonate with your new role.

Did you have any problems with customers and how did you solve them?

You should remember some exact situation in previous work, and describe it in a few sentences, ending with your creative solution to this problematic situation. The best to prepare a small story ahead.



Remember! Nobody wants to watch a movie with a sad final.

There are two simple formulas from HR Managers, how you can memorize the answer.

Keep it **short and simple** and make sure to show human touch in story.

S – situation
T – task
A – action
R – result

C – challenge
A – action
R – results

* These are methods advised by the best recruiters in the world

Why do you want to leave your current job? Why did you leave your last job?

You should provide 1-2 reasons, but **never** (!) answer in a disrespectful way about your previous employer. Let your negative experience stay in past.



Always stay positive and focus on all the great aspects of the new potential employer and why you would like to join them.

What duties and responsibilities do you think you will have in this position?

Provide your assumptions based on the position you are applying for. A general answer without going into details would be enough.

What are your salary expectations? How much would you like to earn?

It is better to announce the number, close to the salary, that this company can provide for the position you are applying for. But it is okay to show your interest in a promotion and, as a result, a bigger salary.

What do you see yourself doing five or ten years from now?

Preferably answer about your career prospects, not about your personal life. Even if a majority of people would prefer to not work, your interviewer would like to hear how this opportunity and company fit into your personal plan for the future.

Would you like to make a career with our company?

Always answer positively, it will make the employer sure, that you are a reliable employee. Provide **2-3 reasons** why you want to make a career with this company.

Are you looking for seasonal or long-term employment?

This is a tricky question.

If your vacancy offers long-term commitment, keep in mind that employers **always look for long-term**, minimum 1-2 years.

In case your reply will be short-term employment – the company might consider another candidate who would like to commit for several years.

What attracted you to this vacancy?

Provide at least 2-3 reasons.

Be honest but remember that the financial side of the vacancy is not the best motivational factor to mention in this case.

What do you do in your free time?

Enumerate 3-4 activities.

Try to stick to activities which are increasing your value as an employee and boost your productivity and energy.

What happened in Vegas should stay in Vegas.



What questions to ask in the interview?

First of all, employers like to see that you are interested in the job itself more than in the financial side of the question.

Questions regarding salary, vacation, and insurance are better to keep for the end.

Usually, professional HRs will light up at this point during the interview.

Some of the questions that you can ask:

- ✓ What results you are looking to see from me within 3 months, half a year or a year?
- ✓ How was the vacancy freed up?
- ✓ Why has the previous candidate left?
- ✓ Ask about the team or management.
- ✓ Ask the interviewer why he/she likes to work in this company.
- ✓ What are the possibilities for training and career opportunities the company provides?



You can always watch your favorite movie or TV series in English before the interview. This will help your brain to prepare you for English speaking and better understanding.

Also keep in mind that often, your potential employer is most probably not a native English speaker and his or her English can be difficult to understand because of an accent.

Therefore, if you do not understand any phrase or question, do not hesitate to ask in a tactful manner to repeat the phrase.



Remember! Interview is primarily a dialogue, show interest and desire to get this position, the employer is there to hire, so he is interested to find a common language.

A positive attitude is key!

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 +971 58 550 0125

 apply@360agency.me

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