

Examples of Tough Interview Questions

QUESTIONS ABOUT CO-WORKERS AND SUPERVISORS

- Tell me about a time when you had to deal with a co-worker who wasn't doing his/her fair share of the work. What did you do and what was the outcome?
- Give me an example of a time when you took the time to share a co-worker's or supervisor's achievements with others?
- Tell me about a time that you didn't work well with a supervisor. What was the outcome and how would you have changed the outcome?
- Have you worked with someone you didn't like? If so, how did you handle it?
- Tell me about a time that you helped someone.
- Tell me about a time that you misjudged a person.
- How do you get along with older (younger) co-workers?

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ABILITIES

- Describe a decision you made that was a failure. What happened and why?
- Tell me about a time that you worked conveying technical information to a nontechnical audience.
- Tell me about a time that you worked with data, interpreting data, and presenting data.
- Why do you think you will be successful at this job?
- Tell me about a time that you participated in a team, what was your role?
- Tell me about a time when you were faced with conflicting priorities. How did you determine the top priority?
- Tell me about a time when you failed.

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOU

- What would you do differently if you could start your working life over?
- How do you balance life and work?
- What is your preferred way to communication - instant message, phone, or email?
- Do you check voicemail and email when on vacation?
- What is your favorite book? How about your favorite movie?
- What historical figure do you admire and why?
- If you could choose anyone (alive or deceased) to have lunch with, who would it be?
- If you could be any animal on a carousel what would you pick and why?
- What did you do during this six month gap in employment?
- What do you love?
- What led you to this point in your life?
- Do you consider yourself successful?
- What inspires you in a job?
- What excites you most about the position and what do you think would be stretch for you?
- Who are the influencers in your life?

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CAREER GOALS

- Start with your graduation from college and explain the rationale behind each of your career moves.
- Also explain the thinking process that went into making each of those decisions.
- How many hours a day/week do you need to work to get the job done?
- If you stayed with your current company, what would be your next move?
- How do you measure success?
- Describe your dream job.
- Describe a job that would be your worst nightmare.
- If you were the CEO of this company what would be the top two things that you would do?

QUESTIONS ABOUT WORKING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

- Are you a risk taker?
- Are your parents married?
- If you could meet with an historical figure, who would it be and why?
- If you were an animal what would you be?
- If you were a fruit what would you be?
- It's your dime.
- Convince me to hire you.
- How do you feel spiritually about divorce?
- We unplugged that clock on the wall. Why did we do that?
- Which do you think you are the most like, and why... a chameleon, a wolf, or an owl?
- Why shouldn't I hire you?
- What does your current employer think you are doing today?
- What is your favorite amusement park ride?
- What is your favorite game?
- What was the most recent book you have read?
- What would you bring to a pot luck lunch?
- Who is your favorite singer?