

# INTERVIEWING WITH CONFIDENCE



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# IKEA JOB INTERVIEW



What do you already know about interviewing?

# INTERVIEWING & DATING: THE SAME RULES APPLY

- Be confident. *Translation: Don't be desperate!*
- Express genuine interest.
- Make sure you're compatible.
- Don't badmouth your exes.
- Keep your ego in check.
- Ask questions.
- Dress to impress.



*Adapted from Alison Green's "7 ways interviewing is like dating"*

# “WHAT ARE YOUR TOP 3 STRENGTHS?”

- Can you answer this question?
- Engage in self-reflection
- Text a friend, family member, partner, colleague, supervisor, etc. Ask, “What do you think are my top 3 strengths?”



# WHAT TO WEAR





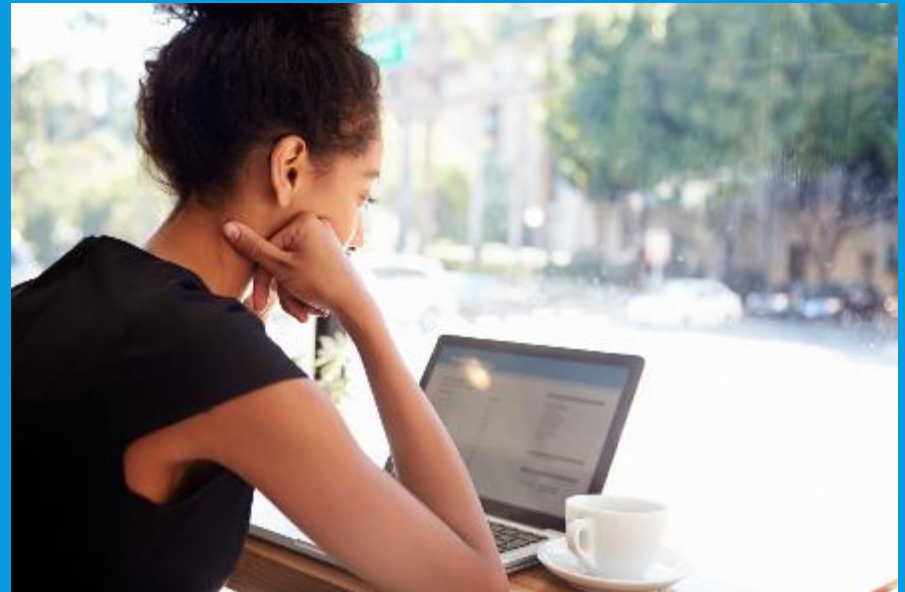
# PREPARING FOR INTERVIEWS

- Review the job description very closely.
- Write down 3-4 questions to ask the interviewer.
- Bring copies of your resume and references.
- Research the company/organization.



# DO YOUR HOMEWORK

- Visit company/organization website (e.g., About Us, etc.)
- Glassdoor.com
- News Articles/Press Releases
- Check out their social media
- Follow the company on LinkedIn
- Do informational interviews with current employees
- Ask faculty, classmates, and alumni



# BRAINSTORM "CAR" STORIES

- **Context:** What was the situation?
- **Action:** What did you do to solve/address it?
- **Result:** What changed or improved afterwards?





# LET'S BRAINSTORM

- Using the CAR formula, come up with at least 1 story/example for each of your top 3 strengths.



# NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION

- ❑ Give a firm hand shake.
- ❑ Maintain good eye contact.
- ❑ Show enthusiasm and interest by smiling frequently.



# DURING THE INTERVIEW

- Arrive slightly early.
- Don't talk too quickly.
- Keep your answers clear and concise (under 2 minutes).
- Provide concrete examples of relevant experience.
- Keep it professional. Don't share overly personal information.
- Talk about why you are interested in the organization/company.
- Thank the interviewer and ask them for a business card.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY...



# POTENTIAL QUESTIONS

- “Tell me about yourself.”
- “Why do you want to work for our company?”
- “What is your greatest achievement?”
- “Tell me about a challenge or conflict you've faced at work, and how you dealt with it.”
- “What do you think we could do better or differently?”
- “Do you have any questions for us?”



# “TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF”

- **Your answer should include:**
  - Education
  - Relevant Experience (e.g. job, internship, volunteer work, class projects, etc.)
  - Specific Skills or Strengths
- **Also discuss:**
  - Why you are excited about this specific role





# QUESTIONS TO ASK

- “Can you tell me about the history of this position?”
- “What is your favorite work event or tradition at [insert company name]?”
- “How will you measure the success of the person in this position?”
- “What are you hoping this person will accomplish in their first six months and in their first year?”
- “Are there opportunities for professional development? If so, what do those look like?”
- “What strategies and plans does your company have to increase diversity in your workplace?”
- “What do you like best about working for this company?”
- “Can you tell me more about the team I’d be working with?”
- “Thinking back to people you’ve seen do this work previously, what differentiated the ones who were good from the ones who were really great?”
- “What are the next steps in the interview process?”

# AFTER THE INTERVIEW

- Thank the interviewer/s.
  - Send an email the same day
  - Include any important information you didn't have the chance to discuss
- Evaluate your performance.
  - What questions were you prepared for? What questions stumped you?
- Follow up with the employer after one week, unless they give you other instructions.



# INTERVIEW PREP: LINKEDIN

The screenshot shows the LinkedIn interface for the 'Tell me about yourself' question. The top navigation bar includes the LinkedIn logo, a search bar, and icons for Home, My Network, Jobs, Messaging, Notifications, Me, Work, and Learning. The left sidebar lists 'Common Questions' with 26 questions, with 'Tell me about yourself.' selected as the first item. The main content area features a blue header for the question, a 'Practice and get feedback' button, and a notification that 1,679,306 people viewed this question. Below this is a section for 'Overview' and an 'Answer framework' section containing a video titled 'How to approach this question' by Jenny Foss, Career Strategist, with 2 minutes and 950,087 views. A 'Watch video' button is located to the right of the video.


**Common Questions**  
26 questions

**Categories**

- 1 **Tell me about yourself.**
- 2 **What is your greatest strength?**
- 3 **What is your greatest weakness?**
- 4 **Why should we hire you?**
- 5 **Why do you want to work here?**
- 6 **Tell me about a time you showed leadership.**
- 7 **Tell me about a time you were successful on a team.**

## Tell me about yourself.


[Practice and get feedback](#) 1,679,306 people viewed this question

 Privately request feedback from your connections after practicing this question. [Learn more](#)

### Overview

A lot of jobs require someone who can think on their feet or present ideas with crispness and clarity. This question provides employers with an early preview of your core skills, your personality and your ability to respond to an unstructured question.

### Answer framework



**How to approach this question**  
By Jenny Foss, Career Strategist  
2 mins · 950,087 views

[Watch video](#)

# CONTACT US!

## Career Development and Alumni Engagement

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