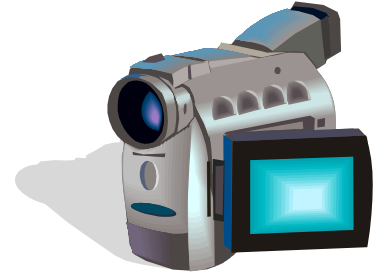


# The Mock Interview



## **Description of the Interview**

The videotaped mock interview is one of the very best ways to prepare for an actual employment interview. It allows you to gain experience and practice in answering questions you are likely to be asked during an interview and then, by watching the videotape, to see yourself as others see you.

The Career Services staff member who takes the role of the interviewer will try to make the interview as realistic as possible by asking questions that are typical of those that might be asked for the type of position you are seeking. At some point during the interview you will have the opportunity to ask questions that you would ask in an actual interview.

The mock interview takes about twenty minutes; then you will watch, discuss, and critique it. Please allow one hour for the appointment.

## **Preparation for the Interview**

Practice questions that you might be asked and think about possible responses. Don't memorize your answers, but be prepared to respond to the interviewer's questions by describing past experiences that will help give the interviewer a better idea of your qualifications. Think of specific examples that help illustrate your qualifications and strengths. A list of sample questions is provided on the back of this sheet.

It is a good idea either to attend a workshop on interview skill development prior to scheduling the mock interview, or to spend some time with a counselor or in the Career Services Resource Library.

Dress for the mock interview. This is a good chance to try out that new interview suit and to see how it feels and looks. Books on appropriate interview dress are available in the Career Services Resource Library.

Be on time, or better yet a little early, and bring a copy of your resume. If you would like to keep the mock interview for future reference, please bring your own VHS videotape.

Enjoy the experience! Tell your friends! We are certain that you will find this to be an extremely valuable and worthwhile way of developing those necessary and very critical interview skills. Remember, practice makes perfect!

UT Tyler Career Services  
[www.uttyler.edu/careerservices](http://www.uttyler.edu/careerservices)

University Center 235/236/241/243 ♦ (903) 565-5862 ♦ Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

# Questions Asked by Employers

## **Personal**

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. What are your hobbies?
3. Why did you choose to interview with our organization?
4. Describe your ideal job.
5. What can you offer us?
6. What do you consider to be your greatest strengths?
7. Can you name some weaknesses?
8. Define success. Failure.
9. Have you ever had any failures? What did you learn from them?
10. Of which three accomplishments are you most proud?
11. Who are your role models? Why?
12. How does your college education or work experience relate to this job?
13. What motivated you most in a job?
14. Have you ever had difficulty getting along with a former professor/ supervisor / co-worker and how did you handle it?
15. Have you ever spoken before a group of people? How large?
16. Why should we hire you rather than another candidate?
17. What do you know about our organization (products or services)?
18. Where do you want to be in five years? Ten years?
19. Do you plan to return to school for further education?

## **Education**

20. Why did you choose your major?
21. Why did you choose to attend your college or university?
22. Do you think you received a good education? In what ways?
23. In which campus activities did you participate?
24. Which classes in your major did you like the best? Least? Why?
25. Which elective classes did you like best? Least? Why?

26. If you were to start over, what would you change about your education?
27. Do your grades accurately reflect your ability? Why or why not?
28. Were you financially responsible for any portion of your college education?
29. What job-related skills have you developed?

## **Experience**

30. Did you work while going to school?
31. What did you learn from these work experiences?
32. What did you enjoy most about your last employment? Least?
33. Have you ever quit a job? Why?
34. Give an example of a situation in which you provided a solution to an employer.
35. Give an example of a time in which you worked under deadline pressure.
36. Have you ever done any volunteer work? What kind?
37. How do you think a former supervisor would describe your work?

## **Career Goals**

38. Do you prefer to work under supervision or on your own?
39. What kind of boss do you prefer?
40. Would you be successful working with a team?
41. Do you prefer large or small organizations? Why?
42. What other types of positions are you considering?
43. How do you feel about working in a structured environment?
44. Are you able to work on several assignments at once?
45. How do you feel about working overtime?
46. How do you feel about travel?
47. How do you feel about the possibility of relocating?
48. Are you willing to work flextime?