

PRACTICE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

www.citadel.edu/career_services/Interviewing.htm

11 March 2010

The Citadel
THE MILITARY COLLEGE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CAREER CENTER



While interviewers may ask you many different questions, rehearse your answers to the following as you prepare to interview:

1. Tell me (us) about yourself.
2. Why did you choose this major?
3. Why are you interested in our industry? In our firm, specifically?
4. With which other firms are you interviewing?
5. What are your geographic limitations or preferences? Are you able and willing to relocate?
6. What are your plans regarding graduate school?
7. What career goals do you have? Where do you want to be in your career in five years?
8. Why did you choose to attend The Citadel? Tell me about The Citadel.
9. What has been your biggest challenge at The Citadel?
10. What type of job would you like?
11. Give us examples of the skills claimed on your resume (see STAR below).
12. What do you know about the position for which you are applying?
13. Why do you think you would be successful in this position?
14. Why do you want to work for us? What can you do for us?
15. What kinds of decisions are most difficult for you to make?
16. You have no objective on your resume (if none); why?
17. What are three of your strengths? Three weaknesses? Give us some examples.
18. What are your starting salary expectations? What income do you expect to be making in five years?
19. What do you know about our firm? About trends in our industry? Who are our competitors?
20. What products/services generate most of our revenue?
21. What is your overall impression of our company?
22. Where are our production facilities located? Where are our headquarters?
23. Which college courses did you like the most? The least? Why?
24. How long have you been interested in this career?
25. Why should we hire you, rather than the other candidates we've interviewed?
26. What three things have you accomplished that make you especially proud?
27. Describe a time you failed, and how you handled it.
28. Show us your academic portfolio/writing samples.
29. Pick a topic related to our firm and make a brief (5 minute) presentation on that topic.
30. What have you learned in your summer/prior jobs?
31. Here is one of our products; pretend I am a potential customer and sell it to me.
32. Is there any other information we should have as we make our decision?
33. What questions do you have for us?

Behaviorally-based interview questions focus on your experience, using four parts (acronym STAR):

Situation, **T**ask to be accomplished, **A**ction taken, and **R**esult

These questions are increasingly asked, thus prepare the examples you may use in your answers.

Please see <http://jobsearch.about.com/cs/interviews/a/behavioral.htm> for additional information.

Important: If you want the job, **be sure to ask the Interviewer a Closing Question at the end of the interview**, confirming your strong interest and asking what your next step is in earning the position with the organization. If you would like, we will rehearse this with you; it is a critical question in interviews.

This list is merely a starting point, but verbalizing your answers in practice with a friend (give him/her a copy of your resume for reference, also) is important preparation for your interviews.