

23U04c Interview Practice

Hello everyone. Welcome to the PUNLA CoffeeTable for one of our student conversations. PUNLA Christian Ministries in conjunction with our ministry partners in the Philippines has developed a series of informative modules to provide information, guidance are career selection, motivation and preparation for your future jobs and careers. As with all things in life, our relationship with God needs to be our top priority.

In Today's conversation we will discuss Interview Practice. Practice, Practice, Practice. Or Practice makes perfect. The more you practice the better prepared you will be.

Let's pray. *Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us opportunities. Lord, I pray for everyone listening today, you know their situation, you know what is in their hearts. Lord, you and you alone can guide us and help us. You alone can give us peace and hope no matter what we are facing in our lives. I trust you, Lord. And I pray in your name Lord Jesus. Amen.*

Okay. The next step in your interview preparation is to practice answering typical interview questions. So let's take some time and work through some of the most common interview questions. Most of these videos are from a group called jobspeaker.

First Question, Tell me about yourself?

[VIDEO Tell me about yourself (4:12)]

Never share personal information. This question is about your professional life not your personal likes and dislikes. Keep your answer focused on relevant work history and education that applies to this particular job. When telling them about your education and work histories follow a chronological order, so it is easy for them to compare it to your resume.

Next, what is your greatest strength?

[VIDEO What is your greatest strength (2:34)]

Never share personal information. Answer with trait or skill that applies to the job. Try to use a previous job or situation as an example of this strength. Use the job description to prepare an answer.

Next, what is your greatest weakness?

[VIDEO What is your greatest weakness (4:23)]

We all have weaknesses. This is an important question. Make sure it is a true story and the weakness you choose is not related to any of the core skills this job requires. Use the PAR model; problem, action, result. Identify work related weakness that is not directly part of the job you are applying for. The is the Problem. I used to have blank weakness. Action. How did you learn, grow and overcome., Result you no longer have this weakness. Tell a story that can show your development and effort.

Next, How did you handle a difficult situation?

[VIDEO How did you handle a difficult situation (3:46)]

This question is meant to test your critical thinking. Your example should demonstrate a problem, how you took charge of the situation and how you worked with a team to resolve it. Use the PAR model; problem, action, result. Emphasize positive outcomes.

Next, Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

[VIDEO Where do you see yourself in 5 years (3:04)]

Remember no cliches, don't use sassy answers. No personal information. Demonstrate you have put thought into your future. You have seriously done a Self-evaluation. Clarify that this job is critical to your plan. Demonstrate your plan to be with the company for a long time. Research jobs you could grow into. This shows you have done your homework. Keep it professional sell the initial role, then promotion potentials inside the organization.

Next, why should I hire you?

[VIDEO why should I hire you (3:44)]

Remember no cliches, don't use sassy answers. Use specific skills that match up to the job descriptions. Focus on at least 3 responsibilities in the job descriptions, then match them with your experience and education. Based on what you are looking for, I can.... I have... Show that you are perfect for the job. You don't just want the job, you are the best fit for this job.

Next, what are your salary expectations? Here is a great video from Deniz Sasal again.

[VIDEO What are your salary expectations (6:13)]

What great advice. Your answer will be different depending on who is asking. You don't have to directly answer, and you should not ever answer directly. I only expect industry standard salary. If forced, use salaries you researched in advance and tell them how you came to that number. Give a reasonable answer. Again, reference your source and research of what you would accept.

Next, Do you have any questions? Here is a great video from jobspeaker again.

[VIDEO Do you have any questions (3:15)]

Yes, ask questions. Avoid cliches or questions you could have answered with your own research. Questions about growth, daily roles, goals for the job, tell them what is the next step in the interview process. Too many is also bad. 2 or 3 is enough.

Let's pray.

Heavenly Father God. I thank you for everything. Guide us as we make decisions such that what we do glorifies you. We trust you, Lord. Help us to seek guidance and assistance from those you put in our life and from those you make ways for us to meet and learn from. I thank you Jesus for promising to guide me. I'm no good when I'm in control, so I pray that everyone listening surrender control to you. Thank you, Jesus for seeing the good in me when I did not see it in myself. I love you Jesus. And I pray in your name Lord Jesus. Amen.

Okay, Let me leave you with this today. I was a boy scout when I was young, our motto was "be prepared". If you don't prepare, you are preparing for failure. So, get prepared. As you prepare, do not neglect your spiritual preparation. God can be trusted to help you with your job interview. Just trust God. Pray for peace and guidance. Do what God is urging you to do? Philippians 4:4-7(NAS) *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentle spirit be known to all people. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*

God can calm your anxieties and worries. God can give you peace that surpasses all understanding.

Thank you so much for allowing me to have this conversation with you today. Put God first in everything you do every time and trust God with everything. Then experience the abundant satisfying life that God has planned for you. Life in the kingdom of God right here on earth.

I don't know what God has planned for you, but I am confident that God's plan for you that is bigger and better than anything you could ever imagine for yourself. If you want to speak with me, you can find my email on our website. www.punla.org. Or on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Tumblr. Until next time. God Bless

MODULE: Interview Practice (23U04c)45m

OUTLINE (timestamp)

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- Opening Prayer (1:20)
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 - Where do you see yourself in 5 years? (21:35)
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