

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A SELECTION OF POPULAR INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. How should I dress for the interview?

If you are unsure how to dress for your interview, do a bit of company research. How do their current employees dress? What do they leave work wearing? If you are still in doubt, err on the side of caution and go smart.

2. What if I forget the question?

The interviewers understand that you are nervous. If you forget the question, politely ask them to repeat or rephrase the question. This will look much better than you waffling in the hope that you will stumble across an answer that satisfies them.

3. Can I rescue the situation if I start waffling?

Yes. Excuse yourself, smile and refocus your thoughts. Finish answering the question quickly.

4. What if I get asked a question I can't answer?

If you are unsure what you are being asked, politely request that they rephrase the question. If you understand the question but can't think of a suitable response don't worry! Ask for a little time to think about it and if you can return to it at the end of the session. This will give you some time to compile a strong answer.

5. They keep asking me the same question over and over! Why?!

If they keep questioning you on one subject it's because they are not satisfied with your answer. Ask yourself, why are they asking me this question? Often, if you listen carefully enough, there will be clues in the way that they phrase their question that will help you construct your response.

6. What if I get a crazy question?

It is becoming more popular to ask candidates 'crazy' and 'sudden death' questions such as 'How would you get peanut butter out of a jar' or 'How would you stick jelly to the ceiling?'. If you find yourself in this situation, the employer is probably trying to establish whether they can faze you. Humour and honesty work best in this position.

7. Do I have to ask questions at the end?

No one can make you ask questions at the end of your interview, but you should! Not only does it look good, but it is also your opportunity to interview the company. By asking them questions you can determine whether this is a company that you would like to work for.

8. Can I ask them about money or holiday entitlement?

No! You should already know the salary at this stage, if you don't now is not the time to ask. Once offered the position you can then negotiate a deal that both parties are happy with.

9. If I don't get the job, can I ask for feedback?

Yes, it could prove to be invaluable information. It may provide you with some tips to help you improve for the future. Do you need more relevant experience? Did you lack skills in some areas? With this information you should be able to strengthen your interview performance for the next position you apply for.