

Custodian Interview Questions And Answers Guide.



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Custodian Job Interview Preparation Guide.

Question # 1

Tell me why do you feel that you are a better candidate for this position than the next one or the one who appeared before you did?

Answer:-

While I do not specifically know about other candidates' custodian skills, I would like to highlight mine. I have deep knowledge of standard cleaning procedures and chemicals. Since I have been working as a custodian for many years, I have good knowledge of handling cleaning activities by following safe practices. I can also work under limited supervision.

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Question # 2

How was your experience with your past employment?

Answer:-

I was really good, I enjoyed coming to work and completing the assignment.

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Question # 3

Do you know what are the essential job tasks of a custodian?

Answer:-

The purpose of a custodian position is to maintain a neat, clean and hygienic environment. Specific duties include: sweeping and mopping the floor, dusting of furniture and equipment, washing the toilets, clearing snow off pathways, lawn cleaning, minor plumbing and electricity maintenance tasks and the like.

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Question # 4

You must be working here for 6 months before you get benefits, are you okay with that?

Answer:-

I can't understand that ;Please can you explain this a little clearer.Exactly what benefits come with the job if hired?

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Question # 5

Tell us what have you done previously that was above and beyond your regular duty?

Answer:-

Last holiday season the hotel I worked at was short of staff. The supervisor requested the staff to do extra shifts and I worked 14-16 hours a day for two weeks in order to support the management during busy season.

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Question # 6

What previous jobs have you held?

Answer:-

I have worked for the City as a Maintenance worker- dispatcher and a animal control officer.

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Question # 7

Can you give me a rundown of your current daily routine?

Answer:-

Report at 6 AM. Finish cleaning the busy areas before 8. Clean and refresh the washrooms all day long, dust the furniture, mop the floor, polish handles, clean grounds and walkways. Clean all equipment and place it in proper shelves. Lock everything before leaving.



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Question # 8

Janitor can be a very routine job, how are you okay working a job that stays routine?

Answer:-

Routine good because I know what needed to be done.

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Question # 9

Explain are you comfortable working night shifts? What do you do to make sure that work during the night is not affected by the natural sleeping cycle?

Answer:-

Yes, I am comfortable working the night shift. While night shifts are not easy for most people, I prefer the night shift as I am used to staying awake during the nocturnal hours. I make sure that I get at least eight hours of sleep during the daytime so that I do not feel tired during work hours.

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Question # 10

Do you speak fluent English?

Answer:-

Of course.

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Question # 11

Tell me what do you do if you have just cleaned an area and some kids come running in with muddy feet?

Answer:-

I manage my work schedule in an organized and planned manner and usually do not work on busy places. I do the cleaning when chances of someone passing through that area are minimal. Whenever I am at work, I display a sign saying 'wet floor' or 'cleaning in progress'. Still, if somebody does come in and ruins the clean floor, I do it again because cleanliness has to be maintained, it's part of my job.

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Question # 12

If a person throws up, and you really do not feel like cleaning up a mess, how would you handle the situation?

Answer:-

Well, I have three kids at home and am kind of used to it. I don't think that anyone really likes to clean that up. I would clean in right away. Put some gloves on, maybe put a mask on, wipe it up and disinfect the area. You just need to do it and move on.

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Question # 13

Why should we hire you as Custodian?

Answer:-

You should hire me because I bring 6+ years of custodial experience and my previous employers will definitely verify that I am a very dependable person. I am able to read, comprehend and follow written instructions and also possess in depth knowledge of the OSHA guidelines applicable to janitorial and custodial tasks.

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Question # 14

Tell me about your greatest weakness as Custodian?

Answer:-

It is very important to give a strength that compensates for your weakness. Make your weakness into a positive. "I consider myself a 'big picture' person. I sometimes skip the small details. For this reason, I always have someone on my team that is very detail oriented." Another good answer: "Sometimes, I get so excited and caught up in my work that I forget that my family life should be my number one priority."

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Question # 15

Phone Based School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * What are three positive character traits you don't have?
- * What are the qualities of a good leader?
- * Tell about a time that you had to adapt to a difficult situation.
- * Can you describe a time when your work was criticized?
- * Who was your favorite manager and why?

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Question # 16

Operational and Situational Questions for Custodian Interview:



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Answer:-

- * Describe your relevant experience as a janitor or custodian. What were some of your responsibilities?
- * What did you like most about your last job?
- * How would you handle being around the general public while you clean?
- * How often do you clean and maintain your equipment?
- * What types of cleaning machinery do you have experience with?
- * What steps would you take if you noticed a problem that required major repairs?
- * Cleaning is repetitive work. How do you stay motivated?
- * Describe a time you had to solve a problem on your own because your supervisor was not available.
- * Describe a time someone criticized your work. How did you handle it?
- * Describe a frustrating experience with this kind of job.
- * You've noticed one of your co-workers stealing supplies. What would you do?
- * What are you looking for in your next supervisor?

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Question # 17

Video Based School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * Give some examples of teamwork.
- * Describe a situation in which you had to collect information.
- * What was the most difficult period in your life, and how did you deal with it?
- * Situation in which you had to arrive at a compromise.
- * What negative thing would your last boss say about you?

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Question # 18

Custodian Job Interview Questions:

Answer:-

- * Are you comfortable working night shifts?
- * Are you able to lift heavy things and remain on your feet for a large portion of your shift?
- * How often do you clean your cleaning implements?
- * Do you prefer working alone or on a team? Why?
- * How do you stay motivated during repetitive tasks?
- * Give me an example of a time when you had to use your own initiative to solve a problem at work because your supervisor was unavailable.
- * What was the result?
- * What kind of supervisor do you prefer to work with?
- * What would you do if you encountered a customer who believed you had done something incorrectly?
- * Describe a time when you had to deal with a difficult member of the public. What happened? How did you handle the situation?
- * What were your duties at your last custodial job?
- * How did you fill downtime at your previous job?
- * How would you handle it if you were asked to do something that wasn't on your list of job responsibilities?

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Question # 19

Situational School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * What relevant experience do you have?
- * What have you been doing since your last job?
- * What parts of your education do you see as relevant to this position?
- * How do you evaluate your ability to handle conflict?
- * What attracted you to this company?

The answer you give to this query can make or break your chances of getting the job.

We recommend that you don't immediately respond to the question directly. Focus on positive achievements and views.

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Question # 20

Communication skills Based School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * Who has impacted you most in your career and how?
- * What type of work environment do you prefer?
- * What do you think this position involves.
- * Do you have the qualities and skills necessary to succeed in your career?
- * Describe a time you were faced with stresses which tested your skills.

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Question # 21

Competency Based School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * Did you feel you progressed satisfactorily in your last job?
- * Why did you decide to pursue this career?
- * What techniques and tools do you use to keep yourself organized?



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- * How would you describe the experience of working here?
- * How do you react to instruction and criticism?

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Question # 22

Strengths and Weaknesses Based School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * What do you believe are your key strengths?
- * Tell me about a time when you successfully handled a situation?
- * How do you see your job relating to the overall goals?
- * Your greatest weakness in school or at work?
- * Time when you made a suggestion to improve the work.

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Question # 23

Behavioral School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * What kind of personality do you work best with and why?
- * Has anything ever irritated you about people you've worked with?
- * Give examples of ideas you've had or implemented.
- * Tell me about how you worked effectively under pressure.
- * What kinds of situations do you find most stressful?

Be prepared to discuss in detail and with examples your five or six main attributes. Your answer will affect the rest of the interview. Show that you are willing to take on the necessary job functions.

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Question # 24

Basic School custodian interview questions:

Answer:-

- * Do you prefer to work independently or on a team?
- * How would you describe your work style?
- * Example when you went above and beyond the call of duty.
- * Have you done this kind of work before?
- * What is more important to you: the money or the work?

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Question # 25

Tell me what has been your worst custodial experience?

Answer:-

The interviewer knows that obstacles may arise sometimes. Describe an unpleasant experience or a time something didn't go as planned and how you handled the situation.

"In my previous position, I was assigned a new coworker for the night shift. He was not very helpful because he kept falling asleep on the job. However, there was a job to be done whether or not I had any help. I am very productive when I work so I was able to complete the work of two people individually within a reasonable amount of time."

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Question # 26

Did you have any problems with management or your supervisors during your last job?

Answer:-

No, I tried to keep it as friendly as possible, If a problem does arise, I try to handle it as professionally as possible to resolve the issue.

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Question # 27

Tell me does the rule "custodians' work should be seen, not custodians" bother you on a personal level? Why? Why not?

Answer:-

It does not bother me one bit. I work not because I want to be "seen". I work because I want to contribute to the success of a company and my contribution is obvious in my work.

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Question # 28

How do you feel about working alone in an empty building if you are on the night shift?

Answer:-

Answer truthfully. Do not be afraid to say you only want a day shift position if that's the case.

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Question # 29

Suppose If you were in a position to hire a team of custodians, what qualities would you look for?

Answer:-

I would want to hire people who have great attention to detail, possess knowledge of cleaning activities in a corporate environment and the ability to have their work being visible, without being visible themselves!

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Question # 30

What have you done to improve your knowledge that related to Custodian position since the last year?

Answer:-

Try to include improvements that are relevant to the job. A wide variety of activities can be mentioned as positive self-improvement. Have some good ones in handy to mention in this circumstance.

Employers tend to look for goal-oriented applicants. Show a desire for continuous learning by listing your non-work related hobbies. Regardless of what hobbies you choose to present, remember that the goal is to prove self-sufficiency, time management, and motivation.

Everyone should learn from his mistake. I always try to consult my mistakes with my friends and relatives, especially with elder and experienced persons.

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Question # 31

Why should we hire you over the next guy? What janitor experiences do you have that set you apart?

Answer:-

I believe my resume speaks for itself. I have 30 years experience. I am certified in my field and have previous supervisory experience.

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Question # 32

We have a large hall that must be spotless for events, sometimes requiring 4 hours of straight cleaning, are you okay with this?

Answer:-

Insuring that the halls are maintained at all times. So if it takes me 4 hours to dustmop, wet mop, top scrub, remove debris and buff it then that is what it takes.

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Question # 33

Tell me what would you do if a client uses abusive language?

Answer:-

I will not react. I continue my work quietly and wind it up quickly. It is offensive and I do feel bad inside but I know how to control my temper and responding in such situations only makes them worse.

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Question # 34

What role do you feel you play as a custodian in the daily operation of a school? How important?

Answer:-

Keeping a clean safe and healthy environment. Very important.

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Question # 35

Give me a rundown of your daily routine at your last job?

Answer:-

Currently, working as a yard and maintenance attendant of my own services. I mow, trim hedges, haul debris, repair doors, posts, and fences, repair leaks, maintain yards and gardens, install sprinkler systems, maintain apartment complexes.

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Question # 36

Tell me how often do you believe that cleaning implements should be cleaned and maintained?

Answer:-

I believe that cleaning implements need to be washed and sanitized every day. This is because clean equipment and tools mean clean surfaces. If our cleaning implements are dirty, we cannot possibly make sure that our work is done properly.

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Question # 37

Tell us A head custodian's work is not just cleaning and maintenance. How would you define your role?

Answer:-

While cleaning and maintenance is a huge part of a head custodian's work, I agree that this is not all there is to it. Ensuring that an entire team of custodians works towards achieving cleaning and maintenance goals is the essence of a head custodian's main job.

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Question # 38

If I were to ask your previous employer about how many days you missed over the last year, what would he say?

Answer:-

They would say that I never miss a day. I am a very committed and loyal employee. I do not like to miss work unless I'm really sick or going on vacation.

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Question # 39

What do you like least about being a janitor?

Answer:-

If it's in my assigned section to clean, it is my responsibility, I'd clean it up.

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Question # 40

Do you have the patience to deal with the general public while cleaning?

Answer:-

Depending on the type of custodian position, you may have to clean in the midst of daily business operations. The interviewer must ensure you are comfortable working in that environment and will represent the company well around customers.

"Yes, in the beginning of my career path, I worked in customer service for a few years. Therefore, I have no problem interacting with and being around customers or the general public while I work. Additionally, I am always extremely focused on the task at hand and my overall duty as a custodian so I don't get easily distracted by environments with noise or constant interruptions."

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Question # 41

How well do you keep your temper under control?

Answer:-

I always make it an everyday goal to keep my temper under control at work. I know that I'm a normal humane being, I do get stressed and upset but at work I make it a habit to control my temper and not let the anger get best of me. Until I get home.

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Question # 42

Tell me are you comfortable with working on a flexible schedule?

Answer:-

Yes! I have always worked on flexible schedules and am comfortable with doing the same again.

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Question # 43

Tell me do you have any custodial experience?

Answer:-

Custodial work requires a deep understanding of cleaning equipment and strategies. Tell the interviewer about any prior experience you have that is relevant to this position.

"I have been a custodian for over three years. I've gained extensive knowledge of cleaning procedures and have experience using various chemical cleaners. I follow safe practices and have no problem working under limited supervision."

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Question # 44

What would your last employer say about your dependency and trust?

Answer:-

They will say that I am punctual, reliable, and committed to the job. Once committed, I ensure the completion of the tasks given.

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Question # 45

What experience do you have in this field and Custodian position?

Answer:-

Speak about specific matters that are relevant to the position you are applying for. If you do not have any specific experience, get them as close as you can.

If you are being asked this question from your employer, you can explain about your experience. Tell the employer what responsibilities you were performing in your previous job. You can tell about the programs you have developed and modules you have worked on. You can also tell about your achievements in different programs.

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Question # 46

Tell me why are you considering leaving your present job?

Answer:-

Regardless of the reason, do not bad mouth your current employer. Negativism will always hurt you. Good answers include: "There is no room for growth at my



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current employer. I am looking for a company with long term growth opportunities". "Due to a company restructuring, my entire department is relocating to Florida. I was give the option of moving, but do not wish to relocate". "My current company is not doing well, and has been laying off employees. There is no job security there, and more layoffs are expected".

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Question # 47

How do you feel about working a double if a coworker calls off?

Answer:-

If is what is need it I will do it the best that I can.

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Question # 48

Tell me have you ever worked with chemical cleaners?

Answer:-

Yes, I am familiar with various chemical cleaners including the chemicals that melt snow however I use them very cautiously and sparingly since many of these are toxic.

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Question # 49

What kind of salary do you need as Custodian?

Answer:-

A loaded question. This is a nasty little game that you will probably lose if you answer first. So, do not answer it. Instead, say something like, That's a tough question. Can you tell me the range for this position?

In most cases, the interviewer, taken off guard, will tell you. If not, say that it can depend on the details of the job. Then give a wide range.

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Question # 50

Explain what do you feel is the most rewarding aspect of this job?

Answer:-

I derive immense satisfaction from this job. The sense of completion that comes at the end of day is really worth all the hard work.

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Question # 51

Will you be willing to work off-hours?

Answer:-

Yes, I don't mind working alone in a building or when the customer is there.

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Question # 52

What has your worst janitorial experience been?

Answer:-

Cleaning up without know power on.

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Question # 53

How would you know you were successful on this Custodian job?

Answer:-

There are several ways to assess: You set big challenges for yourself and met them. Your achievement is a big success. Your boss told you that you were successful. I am sure that I was successful. I have dreamt to work for your company and I can do anything to make my dream become true. And I am really interested in this job, for my passion not for money.

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Question # 54

What do you expect out of this position?

Answer:-

To learn new skills that I still have not acquired from this field of work and also to be challenged in a way where I can sharpen the skills i already have.

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Question # 55

What are your goals for the future as Custodian?

Answer:-

"My long term goals are to find a position where I can grow, continue to learn, take on increasing responsibilities, and be a positive contributor".



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Question # 56

Have you received any training?

Answer:-

Constantly training new concepts regarding sanitizing floor boards, restroom facilities.

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Question # 57

What do you know about our company/school?

Answer:-

This question is used to see if you have prepared for the interview. Candidates that have researched the employer are more appealing. Employers like prepared, organized candidates.

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Question # 58

How did you hear about this job?

Answer:-

Work force center on the north side of Minneapolis.

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Question # 59

Are you experienced in using a radio devices to communicate to other janitors?

Answer:-

Yes, I have used them before.

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Question # 60

We have met several candidates. Why are you the custodian we should hire?

Answer:-

Give definite examples of your skills and accomplishments. Be positive, and emphasize how your background matches the job description.

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Question # 61

Do you have the patience to deal with the general public while cleaning as Custodian?

Answer:-

I can convey professional conversations with the general public on the job. I can focus well in any environment with noises and constant interruption.

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Question # 62

Tell us what is your experience with technology in a head custodian's role?

Answer:-

My present place of work is a huge expanse of a building and I am responsible for overseeing custodial work over all of it. I use radiophones to communicate with my staff which is an effective way of getting my orders across to people with whom I cannot be in touch physically all the time.

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Question # 63

What are your greatest strengths as Custodian?

Answer:-

Be positive and honest. "My greatest strength is maximizing the efficiency of my staff. I have successfully managed numerous teams on difficult projects. I have an excellent ability to identify and maximize each of my staffs strengths." Give examples.

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Question # 64

What motivates you to work hard as Custodian?

Answer:-

I like for thing to shine and look good and the satisfaction that I put on people that walk into the environment face.

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Question # 65



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What do you find most rewarding about being a janitor?

Answer:-

I love what I do, I take pride in my work, when my job is done and well executed it defines my character.

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Question # 66

What were your past duties as a janitor?

Answer:-

Cleaning rooms, cutting grass, lining fields, buffing floors, minor maintenance.

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Question # 67

Tell me what motivates you to work hard in this role?

Answer:-

The end result. When I think of how beautifully clean and neat interiors and exteriors look, it gives me a sense of satisfaction which is quite motivating in itself.

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Question # 68

How do you handle stress and pressure as Custodian?

Answer:-

"I find that I work better under pressure, and I enjoy working in an environment that is challenging." "I am the type of person that diffuses stress. I am used to working in a demanding environment with deadlines, and enjoy the challenges."

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