

# **System Administration Interview Questions And Answers Guide.**



**Global Guideline.**

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# System Administration Job Interview Preparation Guide.

## Question # 1

Top 11 Interview Questions to Ask when Emotional Intelligence Matters As System Administration:

### Answer:-

Emotional intelligence, or EQ, has come into vogue as a good trait to hire for.

EQ is the ability to use emotional information to guide thinking and behavior, to recognize other people's emotions and your own, and to discriminate between different feelings and label them appropriately.

EQ is considered essential to help teams function well. Here are some of the top questions for help you get an idea of how candidates perceive their emotions and those of others.

1. If you started a company today, what would its top values be?
2. Who inspires you? Why?
3. How could you create more balance in your life?
4. What makes you angry?
5. How do you have fun?
6. How good are you at asking for help?
7. How did you deal with a bad day?
8. What's something you're really proud of? Why?
9. Tell me about a time when your mood altered your performance (positively or negatively).
10. Has there ever been a time when you felt you needed to change your behavior at work? How did you do it?
11. Did you create friendships that lasted while working at a previous job?

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## Question # 2

Top 12 Stress Based Interview Questions As System Administration:

### Answer:-

Some jobs require employees to work under stress, and some interviewers just like to see how applicants handle stressful questions.

There are many questions designed for putting the interviewee into an awkward situation, or throwing them off, to see how they do under stress. Here are some samples.

1. How do you feel this interview is going As System Administration?
2. How would you handle undesired criticism from a superior?
3. How many other jobs are you applying for?
4. What would you do if you saw a colleague stealing supplies or equipment?
5. What did you do when you had a boss you didn't get along with?
6. What would you do if a colleague took credit for your idea, and got a promotion?
7. Was the stress of your previous job too much for you?
8. What would you do if a colleague admitted to lying on their resume to get the job?
9. What would you do if a customer verbally insulted you in front of co-workers?
10. What would you change about the design of a baseball hat?
11. Why were you fired from your previous job As System Administration?
12. How successful do you think you've been so far?

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## Question # 3

What is the difference between a big ego and a healthy ego?

### Answer:-

"Ego" should be replaced by confidence. It's good to be confident as it shows that you know what you're doing. However, a big ego is when confidence spirals out of control and you become arrogant.

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## Question # 4

You have a project due in one hour but a more important emergency that affects business needs to be fixed immediately, what do you do?

### Answer:-

Focus on the issue that impacts the business most first.



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### **Question # 5**

What is your typical way of dealing with conflict? Give me an example?

#### **Answer:-**

First, find out what the root of the problem is. Second, determine the best steps to remediation with the best possible outcome. Third, take action to put remediation plans in place.

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### **Question # 6**

What five words would describe you as System Administration?

#### **Answer:-**

The hiring manager requests this of you because she wants to know more about your individual personality. This list can reveal a lot to her about who you are and how you might fit into the workplace. Your answer also gives the manager an indication of your self-perception, which is a good indicator of the type of employee you will be.

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### **Question # 7**

How do you adapt to new working environments As System Administration?

#### **Answer:-**

It's important that you demonstrate that you can adapt to changing environments quickly. You want to stress that you can manage change. The one thing in life that is constant after all, is change.

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### **Question # 8**

Who has been an inspiration for you?

#### **Answer:-**

Cite your role models (possible examples could be your parents, people successful in the industry, world leaders, etc)

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### **Question # 9**

Tell me about a time when you had to give someone difficult feedback As System Administration?

#### **Answer:-**

By asking this question, your interviewer hopes to learn whether you can communicate effectively, address issues in the workplace and motivate others during difficult times. Giving negative feedback requires honesty, thoughtfulness and tact. Answering this question well can help show an interviewer that you would be a good fit for a managerial position or a position that involves working closely with others.

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### **Question # 10**

What are your weaknesses for System Administration position?

#### **Answer:-**

Try not to be too critical when answering this question. Instead, pick one of your weaknesses and try to turn it into a positive. For example, you could be a perfectionist, which means that you sometimes take longer on tasks, but you make sure that they are completed to a high quality. It is important to make a negative into a positive as it doesn't make you appear overly critical and shows you can reflect on your own performance.

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### **Question # 11**

Tell us something about yourself?

#### **Answer:-**

Bad Answer: Candidates who ramble on about themselves without regard for information that will actually help the interviewer make a decision, or candidates who actually provide information showing they are unfit for the job.

Good answer: An answer that gives the interviewer a glimpse of the candidate's personality, without veering away from providing information that relates to the job. Answers should be positive, and not generic.

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### **Question # 12**

What have you done to improve your knowledge As System Administration in the last year?

#### **Answer:-**

Try to include improvement activities that relate to the job As System Administration. A wide variety of activities can be mentioned as positive self-improvement. Have some good ones handy to mention.

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### **Question # 13**



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Tell me about a time you failed?

**Answer:-**

Everyone has failed, so don't play dumb or claim you've never messed up As System Administration. Think of a time when a work-related situation didn't turn out quite as you had hoped. An interviewer is interested in seeing how you took responsibility for your failure, what you learned from it, and how you would prevent similar failures from happening again.

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### **Question # 14**

What are your thoughts about working from home?

**Answer:-**

This is a new policy some companies are adopting. If the company you are interviewing for allows for it, then you should be thankful for the flexibility and convenience yet state that working from home is a privilege that you would honor. The key point you want to make is that you would still be able to focus and be just as productive working at home.

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### **Question # 15**

Name five characteristics that describe you?

**Answer:-**

Here are a few you could choose from:

Hard working, strong willed, persistent, intelligent, adept, amicable, friendly, collaborative, eager, humble.

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### **Question # 16**

What relevant work experience do you have in this career field As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

Talk about specific work related experience for the position you're interviewing for. Make sure the experience is relevant. Don't talk about previous experience that is not related to the position in question. If you don't have specific career related experience speak about prior experience that has helped you develop the specific knowledge and skills required for the position you are applying for.

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### **Question # 17**

What are you looking for in a new position As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

I've been honing my skills As System Administration for a few years now and, first and foremost, I'm looking for a position where I can continue to exercise those skills. Ideally the same things that this position has to offer. Be specific.

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### **Question # 18**

What did you like least about your last (or current) job As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

Don't vent or focus on the negative with brutally honest answers such as "My boss was a jerk," or "The company culture was too politically correct," or "They just weren't giving me the opportunity to take my career to the next level." Instead, keep the emphasis on the positive, even though there are sure to be things you weren't happy about.

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### **Question # 19**

What can you offer us that someone else can not?

**Answer:-**

Bad Answer: Going negative - if the candidate starts trash talking other candidates, it's a sure sign of a bad attitude. Also, if they can't provide a solid answer, it may show that they lack thorough knowledge of the skills the job requires, and an understanding of where they fit in.

Good answer: The candidate can name specific skills, abilities or understandings they have that apply directly to the job that other candidates are unlikely to have, or are in short supply.

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### **Question # 20**

Can you explain why you changed career paths As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

Don't be thrown off by this question-just take a deep breath and explain to the hiring manager why you've made the career decisions As System Administration you have. More importantly, give a few examples of how your past experience is transferable to the new role. This doesn't have to be a direct connection; in fact, it's often more impressive when a candidate can make seemingly irrelevant experience seem very relevant to the role.

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### **Question # 21**

How do you propose to compensate for your lack of experience?



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### **Answer:-**

The first thing you should do is discuss experience you have the interviewer is unfamiliar with. Once that is detailed, tell the person conducting the interview that you are able to learn new tasks and information in a reasonable period of time and possess a strong work ethic. However, only state this if you can live up to these expectations.

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### **Question # 22**

What is your greatest fear?

### **Answer:-**

We all have fears. It's okay to discuss them. Just don't dive too deeply into them. Discuss how you would work to overcome your fears. You don't want to seem weak. You want to acknowledge it's out there but that you'll be able to work through it.

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### **Question # 23**

What do you know about our company?

### **Answer:-**

You always want to make sure that you're pretty familiar with the company that you're interviewing with. Nothing looks worse than a candidate who knows nothing about the company they say they're interested in working for. Find out everything you can about the company, its culture and its goals. You will also want to know how the company is positioned in its market as well as who its major competitors are.

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### **Question # 24**

Your coworker highlights your mistakes in front of everyone, how do you handle the situation?

### **Answer:-**

Admit to the mistake without being emotional, but then discuss how you are being proactive in getting it fixed. Lastly, pull the co-worker aside later on to tell them that you'd appreciate it if they gave you the feedback 1:1 first before throwing you under the bus.

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### **Question # 25**

Why do you feel you will excel at this job?

### **Answer:-**

This question presents an excellent opportunity for you to discuss your education, qualifications and personal traits. You might say something like "I studied property management as well as behavior during my college years and I have two years' experience in real estate. I can gauge the homes or apartments in which clients will be interested based solely upon the needs of their families. Finally, my organizational skills will allow me to schedule appointments or showings confidently and arrive for them punctually." This shows your interviewer that you have all of the skills necessary to become successful not only for yourself, but also for your employer.

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### **Question # 26**

How do you handle conflicts with people you supervise?

### **Answer:-**

At first place, you try to avoid conflicts if you can. But once it happens and there's no way to avoid it, you try to understand the point of view of the other person and find the solution good for everyone. But you always keep the authority of your position.

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### **Question # 27**

Why should we select you not others?

### **Answer:-**

Here you need to give strong reasons to your interviewer to select you not others. Sell yourself to your interviewer in interview in every possible best way. You may say like I think I am really qualified for the position. I am a hard worker and a fast learner, and though I may not have all of the qualifications that you need, I know I can learn the job and do it well."

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### **Question # 28**

What are some of the things that you and your supervisor disagree upon and how do you resolve them? What do you do when you are pressed for a decision?

### **Answer:-**

The key is that you openly communicate your thoughts to your supervisor to explain your position and try to come to a mutual decision together. Also be sure to listen to his/her thoughts so that you can potentially compromise. When you're pressed for a decision, make sure you've put thought into the reasons as to how you arrived at it and then decisively make it.

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### **Question # 29**

What skills do you bring to the table?

### **Answer:-**



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Think of your skill sets with regards to: analytical skills, interpersonal skills, communication skills, computer skills, presentation skills, management skills, sales skills and so forth.

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### **Question # 30**

How have you achieved your success?

**Answer:-**

Discuss stories of how you've progressed over the years to achieve success. People relate best to stories.

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### **Question # 31**

What is the most important lesson / skill you've learned from school?

**Answer:-**

Think of lessons learned in extra curricular activities, in clubs, in classes that had a profound impact on your personal development. For example, I had to lead a team of 5 people on a school project and learned to get people with drastically different personalities to work together as a team to achieve our objective.

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### **Question # 32**

What challenges are you looking for in this position?

**Answer:-**

A typical interview question to determine what you are looking for your in next job, and whether you would be a good fit for the position being hired for, is "What challenges are you looking for in a position As System Administration?" The best way to answer questions about the challenges you are seeking is to discuss how you would like to be able to effectively utilize your skills and experience if you were hired for the job. You can also mention that you are motivated by challenges, have the ability to effectively meet challenges, and have the flexibility and skills necessary to handle a challenging job. You can continue by describing specific examples of challenges you have met and goals you have achieved in the past.

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### **Question # 33**

What are your personal skills which make you a candidate for the position As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

The list of crucial character traits includes patience, tact, and poise, with personal and cultural sensitivity. One needs the ability to work long hours, with much walking and some physical tasks. But the most important trait of all is to love people and to have the desire to care for them.

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### **Question # 34**

How would you impact the company?

**Answer:-**

Consider first the role that you're applying for and then think of 3 ways where you could potentially impact the company's bottom line and top line. Then consider how you impact the company in a creative manner (how do you help productivity, the development of new products, marketing etc - of course this part is specific to the role you're applying for)

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### **Question # 35**

What motivates you to work As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

Describe what makes you passionate about the work. It could be the company's vision, the product, your desire to succeed, the clients, your peers and so on. They key is to first understand what internally motivates you to do your job and then to emphasize that in a positive way

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### **Question # 36**

What will your ramp time be before you become a meaningful contributor?

**Answer:-**

Companies want staff that can ramp quickly, but also want people who are realistic. So take into consideration how intense the job is and then give a good answer. For example, if you have simple responsibilities that don't require a huge development curve, then your ramp time will probably be shorter. If it's a complex set of skills that you need to develop, then your ramp time could be longer - the key is you have to explain why you believe that ramp time should be.

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### **Question # 37**

What do you like to do outside of work?

**Answer:-**

Interviewers ask personal questions in an interview to "see if candidates will fit in with the culture [and] give them the opportunity to open up and display their personality, too.". In other words, if someone asks about your hobbies outside of work, it's totally OK to open up and share what really makes you tick. (Do keep it semi-professional, though: Saying you like to have a few beers at the local hot spot on Saturday night is fine. Telling them that Monday is usually a rough day for you because you're always hungover is not.)



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### Question # 38

Why are manhole covers round?

**Answer:-**

This is a classic brainteaser, which was reportedly first asked by a Microsoft interviewer. Here's how to "solve" this brainteaser (remember to speak and reason out loud while solving this brainteaser): Why are manhole covers round? Could there be a structural reason? Why aren't manhole covers square? It would make it harder to fit with a cover. You'd have to rotate it exactly the right way.

The pipes below are also round, so fitting them might be easier, as might be making them. So many manhole covers are round because they don't need to be rotated. There are no corners to deal with. Also, a round manhole cover won't fall into a hole because it was rotated the wrong way, so it's safer. Looking at this, it seems corners are a problem. You can't cut yourself on a round manhole cover. And because it's round, it can be more easily transported. One person can roll it.

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### Question # 39

If you could offer suggestions on how to improve our company, what would you say?

**Answer:-**

Examine the trends of the company and also where there may be some weaknesses (news articles often document this on public companies or look at their competitors to see how they're positioning it against them.) Then, once you have that knowledge, think creatively on how you could improve upon that weakness for them.

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### Question # 40

Have you ever mentored anyone before? If yes, describe the situation?

**Answer:-**

Describe a time where you've helped someone else. Mentor ships can be informal so as you've helped someone over a period of time that can certainly count. The key is to highlight how you utilized certain skills/attributes like coaching, teaching, patience, communication skills, and so forth to mentor that person.

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### Question # 41

Are You a 'People' Person?

**Answer:-**

Although it may be phrased a little differently, the gist of this question is clear:

Do you like being around people? If you don't, being a medical assistant isn't a good fit for you. After all, you'll be working directly with patients throughout the day. It helps a lot if you sincerely like interacting with them. While answering this question, make sure to mention that you like helping people too. This will drive home the point that you are a talented medical assistant and would be a valuable part of the team As System Administration.

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### Question # 42

How long do you envision yourself staying with this company?

**Answer:-**

Understand that companies invest a lot of money into hiring the right staff. You want to emphasize that you are in it for the long run and you want to develop a career there and that it's not just a "5 month stepping stone" type of a job. You should be thinking how you're going to grow with that company. After all, don't you want to invest your energy and time with a company that is going to continue to be successful and one that will help you grow?

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### Question # 43

What is your greatest failure As System Administration, and what did you learn from it?

**Answer:-**

When I was in college, I took an art class to supplement my curriculum. I didn't take it very seriously, and assumed that, compared to my Engineering classes, it would be a walk in the park. My failing grades at midterm showed me otherwise. I'd even jeopardized my scholarship status. I knew I had to get my act together. I spent the rest of the semester making up for it, ended up getting a decent grade in the class. I learned that no matter what I'm doing, I should strive to do it to the best of my ability. Otherwise, it's not worth doing at all.

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### Question # 44

Why are you the best fit for this job As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

Analyze the job responsibilities and match those to your skills sets. Then discuss how your experience and skills sets can truly create the best impact to the company in that specific job role. Impact could mean marketing impressions, sales, cutting costs, making products more efficiently, creating better customer service, engineering new designs that create customer excitement, etc.

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### Question # 45

Why are you interested in this type of job As System Administration?



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### **Answer:-**

You're looking for someone who enjoys working with the elderly, or a caring, sociable, and nurturing person.

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### **Question # 46**

What motivates you to succeed?

### **Answer:-**

Your interviewer will likely want to know the reasons why you will remain motivated to do your best during your employment with the company As System Administration. Perhaps you are interested in being challenged, but you may also have interest in being recognized for your hard work in the form of the number of sales you can attain. A great example answer for this question is "I always do my best in everything, including my job. I take pride in my success, and I also want the company for which I work to be successful. Being affiliated with a company that is known for its excellence is very important to me."

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### **Question # 47**

What differentiates you from the competition?

### **Answer:-**

Think about what you bring to the table that you truly believe is unique - the easiest way to do is to think of your own personal stories that demonstrate your work ethic, skills, and dedication. Most people have some or all of those skills, but the unique stories are what make people stand out in interviews.

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### **Question # 48**

Do you work well on a team? How would you define teamwork?

### **Answer:-**

I would define team work as getting the job done As System Administration whether that means if I have to do more then the guy next to me as long as the work gets finished.

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### **Question # 49**

Why should the we hire you as this position As System Administration?

### **Answer:-**

This is the part where you link your skills, experience, education and your personality to the job itself. This is why you need to be utterly familiar with the job description as well as the company culture. Remember though, it's best to back them up with actual examples of say, how you are a good team player.

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### **Question # 50**

Tell me something about your family background?

### **Answer:-**

First, always feel proud while discussing about your family background. Just simple share the details with the things that how they influenced you to work in an airline field.

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### **Question # 51**

How would you rate your communication and interpersonal skills for this job As System Administration?

### **Answer:-**

These are important for support workers. But they differ from the communication skills of a CEO or a desktop support technician. Communication must be adapted to the special ways and needs of the clients. Workers must be able to not only understand and help their clients, but must project empathy and be a warm, humane presence in their lives.

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### **Question # 52**

What's the least rewarding work you've ever done and why?

### **Answer:-**

Describe work you've done that you feel doesn't take advantage of your full potential. For example, "I once had to make paper copies for my job and I feel it didn't take full advantage of my skills. However, it did teach me to be humble in my work and to appreciate a good opportunity when it arose to use my skills"

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### **Question # 53**

What would you like to have accomplished by the end of your career?

### **Answer:-**

Think of 3 major achievements that you'd like to accomplish in your job when all is said and done - and think BIG. You want to show you expect to be a major contributor at the company. It could be creating a revolutionary new product, it could be implementing a new effective way of marketing, etc.

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### **Question # 54**

What aspect of supervision do you find the most difficult?

#### **Answer:-**

Managing different personalities and keeping them focused on the goal at hand.

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### **Question # 55**

What do you think is your greatest weakness?

#### **Answer:-**

Don't say anything that could eliminate you from consideration for the job. For instance, "I'm slow in adapting to change" is not a wise answer, since change is par for the course in most work environments. Avoid calling attention to any weakness that's one of the critical qualities the hiring manager is looking for. And don't try the old "I'm a workaholic," or "I'm a perfectionist."

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### **Question # 56**

What do you look for in terms of culture -- structured or entrepreneurial?

#### **Answer:-**

A good answer is to discuss the importance of having both elements in a company As System Administration. Structure is good to maintain a focus on priorities and making sure people are productive but having an entrepreneurial spirit can help cultivate new ideas that can truly help the company.

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### **Question # 57**

Does your boss know you're here today?

#### **Answer:-**

Usually, you probably haven't told your boss for obvious reasons. So it's ok to say that they do not. You don't want to upset the balance at your current job after all and nothing is guaranteed in an interview. The interviewer should understand this stance.

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### **Question # 58**

What is your biggest achievement?

#### **Answer:-**

Quality work to be is about doing work to the require or set standard, which is very important when it comes to warehouse operations.

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### **Question # 59**

What is your desired salary As System Administration?

#### **Answer:-**

Bad Answer: Candidates who are unable to answer the question, or give an answer that is far above market. Shows that they have not done research on the market rate, or have unreasonable expectations.

Good answer: A number or range that falls within the market rate and matches their level of mastery of skills required to do the job.

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### **Question # 60**

What is your greatest weakness As System Administration? What are you doing to improve it?

#### **Answer:-**

I believe my biggest weakness As System Administration is wanting to help anyone I can help. What I mean is I am willing to take on task that are not my job. I want to learn all I can. However, that has helped me get promoted or even asked to help in times of need in other department. I have been know as the "go to person" when help is needed.

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### **Question # 61**

How do you handle stressful situations?

#### **Answer:-**

By remaining calm, weighing out all my options and executing a plan to get the situation resolve .

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### **Question # 62**

How long will it take for you to make a significant contribution?

#### **Answer:-**

First define significant contribution - once you do that - lay out a timeline plan in which you think you can achieve that.

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### Question # 63

What are your salary expectations As System Administration?

#### Answer:-

This question is like a loaded gun, tricky and dangerous if you're not sure what you are doing. It's not uncommon for people to end up talking salary before really selling their skills, but knowledge is power as this is a negotiation after all. Again, this is an area where doing your research will be helpful as you will have an understanding of average salary.

One approach is asking the interviewer about the salary range, but to avoid the question entirely, you can respond that money isn't a key factor and you're goal is to advance in your career. However, if you have a minimum figure in mind and you believe you're able to get it, you may find it worth trying.

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### Question # 64

What general trends do you see in our industry?

#### Answer:-

Examine what's happened in the industry in the last 5 - 10 years and how it's evolved and then look at what both the company and analysts are saying about the future of that industry in which that company competes in. Read trade magazines / online sources in that industry as well to make sure you stay up to date on trends.

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### Question # 65

How do you think I rate as an interviewer?

#### Answer:-

I think you did fine. I'm sure you've conducted a lot of interviews, and it's probably second nature for you now. Thanks for taking the time to meet with me today. I'm sure you have a lot of things you have to juggle every day.

I'd say you rate at least ten out of ten. The questions you asked seemed spot on. I can tell you guys are working hard to find the perfect applicant for the job. I'm glad I could meet with you.

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### Question # 66

What was the most important task you ever had?

#### Answer:-

There are two common answers to this question that do little to impress recruiters:

\* 'I got a 2.1'

\* 'I passed my driving test'

No matter how proud you are of these achievements, they don't say anything exciting about you. When you're going for a graduate job, having a degree is hardly going to make you stand out from the crowd and neither is having a driving licence, which is a requirement of many jobs.

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### Question # 67

Do you have any questions for me?

#### Answer:-

Good interview questions to ask interviewers at the end of the job interview include questions on the company growth or expansion, questions on personal development and training and questions on company values, staff retention and company achievements.

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### Question # 68

Explain an occasion when you had to adapt in the face of a difficult situation?

#### Answer:-

One of the most useful interview tactics is to remain positive about your work and achievements. This question lets the candidate draw on their own personal history to show how they have been positive and successful in the face of difficulties. Choose a specific occasion to describe, rather than dealing with generic platitudes.

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### Question # 69

How many square feet of pizza are eaten in the United States each month?

#### Answer:-

This is a classic guesstimate question where you need to think aloud. And so first off you round the U.S. population to 300 million people (it's actually about 315 million but rounding will be much easier and your interviewer will not score you lower for rounding). Then estimate how many people eat pizza. A decent educated guess is two out of every three people, or 200 million. Now let's say the average pizza-eating person eats pizza twice a month, and eats two slices at a time. That's four slices a month. If the average slice of pizza is perhaps six inches at the base and 10 inches long, then the slice is 30 square inches of pizza. So, four pizza slices would be 120 square inches (30 times 4).

Since one square foot equals 144 square inches (12 times 12), let's assume that each person who eats pizza eats one square foot per month. Since there are 200 million pizza-eating Americans, 200 million square feet of pizza are consumed in the U.S. each month. To summarize: 300 million people in America, 200 million eat pizza, average slice of pizza is six inches at the base and 10 inches long or 30 square inches, average American eats four slices of pizza a month, four pieces times 30 square inches equals 120 square inches (one square foot is 144 square inches), so let's assume one square foot per person, and thus one square foot times 200 million people equals 200 million square feet of pizza a month.

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### Question # 70



What were the responsibilities of your last position As System Administration?

**Answer:-**

If you want to show your ambition, you can discuss how you haven't reached all of your goals yet and in that sense aren't satisfied. However, if you want to discuss satisfaction from your job discuss an experience in which you achieved something.

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**Question # 71**

Explain me about a time when you reached a goal within a tight deadline?

**Answer:-**

I work well under pressure to meet deadlines without jeopardizing the quality of my work. I have always worked in a fast pace environment where we are constantly under pressure to achieve best results within a time frame.

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**Question # 72**

How have you changed in the last five years?

**Answer:-**

All in a nutshell. But I think I've attained a level of personal comfort in many ways and although I will change even more in the next 5-6 years I'm content with the past 6 and what has come of them.

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**Question # 73**

If I were to give you this salary you requested but let you write your job description for the next year, what would it say?

**Answer:-**

It should say the same thing - after all - if you think this salary is fair then it should suit the responsibilities!

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