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The Nerdery Job Interview Preparation Guide.

Question #1

What specific steps do you utilize in solving workplace problems?

Anewor-

Analyze the problem In The Nerdery. Discuss possible remedies and resulting outcomes. Decide on the remedy and track results. Re-visit problem if it's not resolved.

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Question # 2

Think about the changes you have seen and tell me how you handle change?

Anewor-

You can cite personal life changes, work place changes, career changes, technology change, industry change. The key is to discuss how seeing or experiencing that change has helped your development. For example, the recent changes in social media has broadened my horizons and helped me learn new forms of efficient marketing.

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Question #3

What attracted you to this company In The Nerdery?

Answer:

You could discuss the company's vision, culture and solutions/services as reasons for wanting to join it.

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Question #4

If you felt like you were hitting the proverbial "wall" and getting burned out, what would you do to re-energize yourself?

Answer:

Take a break to rest. Work in smaller increments of time to increase focus with breaks in between. Delegate tasks to those that are willing to help.

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Question # 5

Explain what are your strengths In The Nerdery?

Answer:

Bad Answer: Candidate is unprepared for question or only gives generic answers.

This is the most common job interview question - everybody should be expecting it. If they don't seem prepared, or give a fairly stock answer, it's probably a bad sign.

Good answer: The consensus is to go for quality, not quantity here. Candidates should give a short list of strengths, and back each one up with examples that illustrate the strength. Also, they should explain how these strengths will be useful in the job you're applying for, and use this question to say something interesting about themselves.

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Question # 6

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 #7



Explain me what do you know about our company?

Answer:

Bad Answer: They don't know much about the company. If a candidate is serious and enthusiastic, they should have done some basic research.

Good answer: An answer that shows they've really done their homework and know what the company does, any important current events that involve the company, and the work culture.

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Question #8

What motivates you at the work place?

Answer-

Keep your answer simple, direct and positive. Some good answers may be the ability to achieve, recognition or challenging assignments.

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Question #9

Tell me about a decision you made recently and how you reached it In The Nerdery?

Answer:-

The key is to show that you put a lot of thought (weighing out the pros and cons) but were able to be decisive. Be sure to explain your logic in arriving at the decision.

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Question # 10

How do you rate yourself in computer skills? Please describe the programs and software that you can use well?

Answer-

Ideally you want to able to type quickly, have the ability to effectively use Microsoft Office, and more importantly be able to quickly adapt to computer / technology skills. More and more it's become an integral part of work. If the job doesn't require technology skills - then this question shouldn't be asked!

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Question # 11

What kind of work interests you the least In The Nerdery?

Answer:

What bores you? What fails to challenge you? What fails to excite you?

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Question # 12

Can you tell me a little about yourself?

Answer:-

This question seems simple, so many people fail to prepare for it, but it's crucial. Here's the deal: Don't give your complete employment (or personal) history In The Nerdery. Instead give a pitch-one that's concise and compelling and that shows exactly why you're the right fit for the job. Start off with the 2-3 specific accomplishments or experiences that you most want the interviewer to know about, then wrap up talking about how that prior experience has positioned you for this specific role.

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Question # 13

Describe some problems you encountered in your most recent position In The Nerdery and how you resolved them?

Answer:

Discuss your work experiences. The key is to show you're calm under pressure and can handle sensitive situations with a clear train of thought.

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Question # 14

What kind of car do you drive?

Answer:-

The only time this might matter is if the job requires a certain type of car because of the responsibilities. For example, if you need to load a lot of construction materials into your car, you'll probably need a truck.

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Question # 15

Tell me about a time when you had to use your presentation skills to influence someone's opinion In The Nerdery?

Answer:

Example stories could be a class project, an internal meeting presentation, or a customer facing presentation.

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Question # 16

What are your strengths In The Nerdery?



Answer:-

This is one of the most common questions you will be asked. Give an answer relevant to the skills and qualities relevant to the position you are applying to. The interviewer is trying to find if your strengths match the job. For example, if you are applying for a job In The Nerdery where accuracy is an important issue, one of your strengths could be that you have an eye for detail. It may useful to find different words to describe similar attributes and qualities in order to avoid repetition.

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Question #17

Do you consider yourself successful?

Answer:

You should always answer yes to this question. Briefly explain why without going on and on. If you communicate that you're more successful than you really are you may come off as arrogant or unrealistic. A goof explanation is that you have set professional goals and that you have met some of these goals and are on track to meet more in the near future.

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Question # 18

What motivates you?

Answer:-

I've always been motivated by the challenge - in my last role, I was responsible for training our new recruits and having a 100% success rate in passing scores. I know that this job is very fast-paced and I'm more than up for the challenge. In fact, I thrive on it.

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Question # 19

How long do you want to work for us if we hire you?

Answer:-

Here being specific is probably not the best approach. You may consider responding, "I hope a very long time." Or "As long as we're both happy with my performance."

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Question # 20

Tell me about a time when you had to think strategically?

Answer:

There was a time when I was told I had to get rid of 20% of my people. I had to determine which persons I needed the most by determining who could do what. I had to put aside personal feelings so that I could keep a working crew to handle he same workload with less people.

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Question # 21

What have you done to improve yourself in the last year In The Nerdery?

Answer:-

Discuss how you've improved yourself through work experiences, books you've read, classes, club(s) / extracurricular activities and describe the process on how it's happened. For example: I've improved my presentation skills tremendously because I've had to do 2 presentations this year for my communications class.

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Question # 22

Why are you leaving last job?

Answer:-

Although this would seem like a simple question, it can easily become tricky. You shouldn't mention salary being a factor at this point In The Nerdery. If you're currently employed, your response can focus on developing and expanding your career and even yourself. If you're current employer is downsizing, remain positive and brief. If you employer fired you, prepare a solid reason. Under no circumstance should you discuss any drama or negativity, always remain positive.

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Question # 23

What do you consider to be your greatest strength?

Answer:-

There isn't any right answer. Just make sure to make your response positive and true. A few good examples include: Your ability to solve complex problems, Your ability to work well on a team, Your ability to shine under pressure, Your ability to focus in chaotic situations, Your ability to prioritize and organize, Your ability to cut through the fluff to identify the real issues, Your ability to influence other positively. If your strength relates to the position in question that will be more beneficial - but again be honest, don't create a strength for yourself just because you think it will sound good.

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Question # 24

What did you like least about your last (or current) job In The Nerdery?

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 # 25

Have you ever been fired and if yes, why?

Answer:

Answer this as positively as possible and try to avoid disparaging the company you had previously worked for. The key is to accept the fact that yes, you were fired, but you've learned from the mistakes that got you there and you're better now because of it. If you haven't been fired, well, then this question's a piece of cake isn't it?

Question # 26

Why were you fired?

Answer.

OK, if you get the admittedly much tougher follow-up question as to why you were let go (and the truth isn't exactly pretty), your best bet is to be honest (the job-seeking world is small, after all). But it doesn't have to be a deal-breaker. Share how you've grown and how you approach your job and life now as a result. If you can position the learning experience as an advantage for this next job, even better.

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Question # 27

Do you have the ability to articulate a vision and to get others involved to carry it out?

Answer-

If yes, then share an example of how you've done so at work or college. If not, then discuss how you would do so. Example: "I would first understand the goals of the staff members and then I would align those to the goals of the project / company. Then I would articulate the vision of that alignment and ask them to participate. From there, we would delegate tasks among the team and then follow up on a date and time to ensure follow through on the tasks. Lastly, we would review the results together."

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Question # 28

What role do you see technology playing in this role?

Answer:

Technology is important to almost every job today but it's not meant to be abused. I believe it's important to increase productivity and not for personal use.

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Question # 29

How do you handle your anger?

Answer:-

I don't get angry very easily but in the rare occasion that I do, I hold it in and act as though nothing is wrong.

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Question #30

Do you value recognition or pay more? Why?

Answer:-

Either preference is fine, but just remember you have to be able to explain why. If you say recognition, then back that up by describing how achievement really carries weight with you and how you like to feel valued in the work that you do because it validates that you're helping your teammates / customers and so forth. If you choose money, you can also explain that is important to you as validation and you can highlight how money is important to you because of your goals (financial security, providing for your family, and so forth). The key is to be authentic with your answer. However, if you say you value pay more because you're greedy - know that doesn't align usually to most company's values/vision.

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Question # 31

What's been your biggest failure to date?

Answer:

Describe your biggest failure and discuss what you've learned from it and ideally how you've been successful since because of that lesson.

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Question # 32

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 # 33

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 #34

What other companies are you interviewing at?

Answer:-

Be open and share if you are indeed interviewing elsewhere, but do it in a humble way. This way you don't seem arrogant and the interviewer knows your skills are valued by other companies. This also tends to make them want you more as they know they are competing for your services.

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Question #35

What is your perception of taking on risk?

Answer-

You answer depends on the type of company you're interviewing for. If it's a start up, you need to be much more open to taking on risk. If it's a more established company, calculated risks to increase / improve the business or minimal risks would typically be more in line.

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Question # 36

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 # 37

What are ideas or initiatives you've led and what was the outcome?

Answer:-

Describe your most unique ideas and initiatives that had the best results for the company. Make sure you highlight your creativity, your results, your diligence and your ability to execute.

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Question #38

Describe to me a time where you had to make a hard decision In The Nerdery?

Answer:-

Hard decisions are hard for a reason. It could dramatically effect the company. It could affect other workers. So if you have a story about how you made a hard decision and had a good outcome, share that. If you have one where the outcome wasn't great, explain how you would have changed the way you approached the decision to show you learned how to improve.

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Question # 39

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 # 40

If selected for this position In The Nerdery, can you describe your strategy for the first $90 \ days$?

Answer:

This depends on the job role. Make sure you break it down into

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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 In The Nerdery.

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Question # 42

What can you tell me about team work as part of the job In The Nerdery?

Answer:

There is usually a team of staff nurses working in cooperation with each other. A team of nurses has to get along well and coordinate their actions, usually by dividing their responsibilities into sectors or specific activities. They help each other perform tasks requiring more than one person.

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Question # 43

Why should I hire you In The Nerdery?

Answer:

To close the deal on a job offer, you MUST be prepared with a concise summary of the top reasons to choose you. Even if your interviewer doesn't ask one of these question in so many words, you should have an answer prepared and be looking for ways to communicate your top reasons throughout the interview process.

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Question # 44

Why should we give you this job In The Nerdery when someone else is equally qualified?

Answer-

Describe how you're unique, but make sure you tie it to the job responsibilities and how you would impact the company. For example, "I believe my unique programming skills and experience in developing over 18 best selling iphone apps will help the company develop high quality applications faster than my competitors"

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Question # 45

What does your professional network look like?

Answer:-

If you have a professional network, discuss it detail (# of contacts, people you know, their positions and what you've learned from them or how you've worked with them). If you don't have one, discuss how you would develop one (career fairs, networking events for that industry, through your existing friends, etc)

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Question # 46

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 # 47

What are three positive characteristics you wish you had?

Answer:-

The key here is to be honest about your wish list but then to describe how you plan on developing or growing those characteristics so that it becomes a reality. For example, I wish I had a stronger work ethic and I am reading a book right now about how to instill a better discipline around getting work done efficiently.

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Question # 48

Did the salary we offer attract you to this job?

Answer:-

The interviewer could be asking you this question for a number of reasons. Obviously, the salary is an important factor to your interest in this job, but it should not be the overriding reason for your interest. A good answer to this question is, "The salary was very attractive, but the job itself is what was most attractive to me."

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Question # 49

What would you do if our competitor offered you a position In The Nerdery?

Answer:

I would weigh the offer and consider it, however, this company and this role is my first choice.

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Question # 50

What is your desired salary In The Nerdery?



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 #51

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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Question # 52

Explain me about your experience working in this field In The Nerdery?

Answer.

I am dedicated, hardworking and great team player for the common goal of the company I work with. I am fast learner and quickly adopt to fast pace and dynamic area. I am well organized, detail oriented and punctual person.

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Question #53

Do you think a leader should be feared or liked?

Answer:

Liked. You want to work harder for people that inspire and motivate you. Fear only lasts for so long.

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Question # 54

What does "thinking outside the box" mean to you?

Answer:-

It means not doing things exactly the same way as everyone else. You've got to challenge the status quo and bring something new to the business.

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Question #55

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 # 56

Give an example of a time you successfully worked In The Nerdery on a team?

Answer:-

On the whole I prefer to stick to doing what I'm told rather than setting myself up to fail by doing things off my own bat. But there was this one time when I suggested to my boss at the pizza parlor that she try offering an 'all you can eat' deal to students to boost trade on Mondays. She thought it was an interesting idea but nothing ever came of it.

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Question # 57

Why should the we hire you as this position In The Nerdery?

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 #58

What do you think we could do better or differently?

Answer:

This is a common one at startups. Hiring managers want to know that you not only have some background on the company, but that you're able to think critically about it and come to the table with new ideas. So, come with new ideas! What new features would you love to see? How could the company increase conversions? How could customer service be improved? You don't need to have the company's four-year strategy figured out, but do share your thoughts, and more importantly, show how your interests and expertise would lend themselves to the job.

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Question # 59



What are your salary expectations In The Nerdery?

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 # 60

What techniques and tools do you use to keep yourself organized In The Nerdery?

Answer-

Utilizing a calendar, having a notebook with your "to do" list, focusing on your top 3 priorities each and every day, utilizing a systematic way of storing documents on your computer (like box.net)

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Question #61

Do you think you have enough experience In The Nerdery?

Answer:

If you do not have the experience they need, you need to show the employer that you have the skills, qualities and knowledge that will make you equal to people with experience but not necessary the skills. It is also good to add how quick you can pick up the routine of a new job role.

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Question # 62

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 # 63

What problems have you encountered at work?

Answer:-

Wow, do we have problems! Where do I begin? Well, most of the problems are internal, just people not working well with each other. I have one person on our team who is a real problem, but it seems like management is afraid to do anything about it. So we all end up having to do extra work to cover for this person, who just doesn't work. We all say that he's retired in place. I think he's just holding on until retirement in a couple years. But he's a real problem. I complain about it--a lot--but nothing ever seems to get done. I've even written negative reviews about the person, hoping he will get canned, but it doesn't happen. I can't wait for him to retire.

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Question # 64

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 #65

How do you plan to go by an example for your subordinates?

Answer:

Sticking to the rules by yourself, working hard and not mind participating on basic tasks is a good answer.

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Question # 66

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 # 67

What was the biggest professional risk you have taken and what was the outcome?

Answer:-

First discuss how you weighed the pros and cons of the risk and the results you'd believe you could achieve. Then discuss the action plan you put into place for it and



outline that step by step. Then discuss the outcome and if it wasn't optimal talk about what you would do differently in hindsight.

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Question #68

What would your first 30, 60, or 90 days look like in this role In The Nerdery?

Answer:

Start by explaining what you'd need to do to get ramped up. What information would you need? What parts of the company would you need to familiarize yourself with? What other employees would you want to sit down with? Next, choose a couple of areas where you think you can make meaningful contributions right away. (e.g., "I think a great starter project would be diving into your email marketing campaigns and setting up a tracking system for them.") Sure, if you get the job, you (or your new employer) might decide there's a better starting place, but having an answer prepared will show the interviewer where you can add immediate impact-and that you're excited to get started.

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Question #69

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 # 70

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 #71

Tell me one thing about yourself you wouldn't want me to know?

Answer-

Talk about a trait that you would consider a weakness. No need to talk about your deepest darkest secrets here.

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Question # 72

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 # 73

What do you expect to be earning in 5 years In The Nerdery?

Answer:-

Discuss how you expect yourself to be excellent at your job. Thus, it would be reasonable to expect pay that is based on the merit of your work.

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Agencies Most Popular Interview Topics.

- 1 : <u>Camp Counselor Frequently Asked Interview Questions and Answers Guide.</u>
- 2: Paralegal Frequently Asked Interview Questions and Answers Guide.
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