



Interview Sample Questions

Being prepared for an interview is of the utmost importance. Some interviews are very conversational, while others are very structured; you have to be ready for any interview style. It is impossible to prepare for every question you might be asked in an interview because each interview is unique, but thinking about and talking through how you might answer the questions below will help you go into an interview more prepared.

Tell me about yourself.

Why should we hire you?

Why do you want to work for our firm?

What can you tell me about our organization?

Why do you want to work in [city]? What ties do you have to this city? Do you plan on staying in [city] long-term?

What practice areas interest you?

Why did you decide to go to law school?

What classes do you like best? What classes do you like least?

Who is your favorite professor?

I see you worked at _____, tell me about your experience there.

How has your work with _____ prepared you for a legal career?

What has been your favorite job? Least favorite?

Why did you decide to attend law school after _____ (prior career, other advanced degree, etc.)?

Why did you choose to participate in [student group/clinic/law review, etc.]? What have you learned from the experience?

What is your greatest strength? Biggest weakness?

How would [a former supervisor/a friend/ someone who knows you well] describe you?

What three things would your peers say you do well?

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Tell me something about yourself that is not on your resume.

Where do you see yourself professionally in five years?

Are you a better public speaker or writer?

Tell me about your writing sample.

What are your grades?

Do you feel that your grades are a good representation of your ability?

What one accomplishment has given you the most satisfaction and why?

Why do you think you will be successful in law practice?

What motivates you?

What aspects of a job are most important to you?

Do you consider yourself to be a competitive person?

Do you prefer to work independently or as part of a team?

Do you have any questions for me?

Behavioral Interview Questions

Some interviewers like to ask questions that will require you to answer based on your past experiences or respond to a hypothetical about how you would handle a given situation. Occasionally, employers will ask hypothetical questions that relate to how you would handle an interaction or ethical issue that is specific to their area(s) of practice. (Hypothetical questions are more common in a public interest or prosecutor's office interview setting.)

Tell me about a time you had to deal with a difficult customer, coworker, or other individual and how you handled it.

Describe a challenge that you have had and how you dealt with it.

How would you manage your workload if you had too many assignments and had to prioritize?

Tell me about a time you had to work with others and how you handled it.

Describe a recent experience when you had to work under pressure.

Tell me about a time your work was criticized and what you learned from the experience.

Describe a major project you have completed and how you approached it.

Tell me about an idea you implemented that was particularly innovative.

How would you handle having to represent an unpopular client?