

## **Challenging questions frequently asked in interviews**

* Why are you the **best candidate**?
* Tell me **about yourself**.
* Tell me about your **background.**
* What do you consider to be your three **greatest strengths/achievements**?
* What are your **strengths** and **weaknesses**?
* What are your **areas of development** (or weaknesses) and what action have you taken to address them?
* What are you doing to **upgrade your skills**?
* What do you **enjoy**/**dislike** about your job?
* If I were to call your manager, **how would he/she describe you**?
* How would you describe the **relationship** with your **manager**?
* What is the **biggest mistake** you have ever made?
* Why do you want to **leave your** current **job**?
* Why did you **leave** your **previous** **position**?

**Notes**

## **Questions you may ask at the end of an interview**

* How is the **atmosphere** in the team?
* What aspects of this position need **immediate attention**?
* What are the **challenges** facing this position?
* Who would I be **reporting to**?
* What does a **typical day/week** on this job look like?

**Notes**

## **Exercise: dealing with challenging questions**

Write down the answer to the questions below.

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| --- | --- |
| * Why are you the **best candidate**? * Tell me **about yourself**. * Tell me about your **background.** | Write down any **relevant information** regarding the Job Opening on the 3 areas below:  1. Your academic background  2. Your job experience  3. Three skills, competencies or strengths |
| * What are your **strengths** and **weaknesses**?   ***Strength****: a quality used in a favourable context vs.*  ***Weakness****: a strength used in an unfavourable context* | Write a strength and identify a context where your strength becomes a weakness.  Strength Context where  my strength becomes a weakness |
| * What are your **areas of development** (or weaknesses) and what action have you taken to address them? * What are you doing to **upgrade your skills**? | Write down a skill, competency or area of work that you are presently improving (explain what you are doing). |
| * How would your manager **describe you**? * How would your colleagues **describe you**? | Write down 3 adjectives that your manager/colleagues would say about your work, performance, personality, etc. |
| * How would you describe the **relationship** with your **manager**? | Write down 3 adjectives that would describe your relationship with your manager. |
| * Why do you want to **leave your** current **job**? * Why did you **leave** (do you want to leave) **your** **position**? | Write a reason why you are motivated to look for a new job. |