

Common Interview Questions

As a traveler, it may have been awhile since you have had to interview for a permanent position. Well nobody hardly works a "permanent position" anymore, but you know what I mean. I have found that when you are about to go to an interview, it will do you right to review in your head what you will say to the common interview questions. This way you are not surprised and tripping over your words as you try to come up with an answer under pressure.

First there is the open ended question that most people ask that says, "tell me about yourself." Well, where do you start? From birth? You don't want to make the story too long to bore them, but you want to make sure you cover all the important points. You should also include something interesting in there about yourself that portrays you as a person to remember.

Next, a manager will often ask you, "can you think of a time you have had a conflict with someone at the work place and if so, how did you handle it? You want to pick a fairly trivial situation and describe a very appropriate way you handled it and that it had a good outcome.

Why are you looking to leave your current position to work here? If you are leaving your previous work place due to bad politics, I would not mention it here. This is not the place to air out your dirty laundry. They will naturally assume that you will have the same problems at their facility and talk about them the same way to someone else in the future.

You may sometimes be asked about your biggest accomplishment in life or even your biggest failure and how you handled it.

Also, I wouldn't ask about pay until you are offered the job. Most people are not able to tell you until that point anyway.

Fortunately, you are in a profession that is in high demand and your competition for a job won't be anything like the business world. You are very fortunate. Just make sure to be professional and prepared for the interview and you will do fine.
