

Interview Questions



Section A

Why should I hire you?

Well, I have all necessary skills for working in the field of journalism, and, above all, enthusiasm. In other words, by hiring me you will get everything you are looking for. I have been working part-time for several local newspapers, where I have served in the role of a reporter and also had an opportunity to participate in the content creation and production process. I have a reputation of meeting aggressive deadlines and getting all tasks done in time – and with the smile on my face. I love working in the field and I am excited to develop skills professionally and personally in every possible way.

What are your strengths?

I feel that my strong work ethics is one of my greatest strength. I can get things done even in the face of serious obstacles. Once I commit to a task, I will do whatever it takes to deliver the work in time. I am also proud of my problem solving skills, and I think that I can contribute to creating healthy organizational environment. I have the ability to see the problem from different perspectives, so that I can find a unique solution to the issues with minimal resources needed.

What are your weaknesses?

Sometimes I can be too straightforward while giving the feedback on my colleagues' work. My personality is naturally honest and perfectionistic, and, in fact, many employers liked these personal qualities. However, working in a team requires tolerance, which I am currently working on.

Why are you applying for this position?

I think my strong communication and problem solving skills are tailored to the position of a reporter, and thus I can utilize my abilities to the greatest extent. Moreover, this job opportunity will enhance my working experience, thereby giving an opportunity to learn more about the line of journalist profession.

How are you qualified for this position?

As you can see in my resume I do not have much experience of working in journalism, but what might not be clear from my CV is the contribution I have made to the outlets I worked with. I was responsible for generating new ideas about writing stories more than any other reporter. I intend to bring that same intelligence to your organization.

Why are you interested in working for our firm?

The position of intern in your firm appeals to me more than in any other companies. Your interns do not serve coffee or simply do research for more experienced reporters. I believe that your company will enable me to stretch my journalistic skills and obtain enormous amount of knowledge, as I will have a chance to produce stories under the guidance of experienced ranking editors and reporters.

What can you contribute to this company?

My firm is important to me, and, therefore, I always try to be mindful of my actions. I am the kind of person, who considers not only the outcomes of my decisions but the aftermath of the outcomes as well. I am also a hard working person, who likes things done in the creative way. In the past my creative mind enabled me to introduce unique and radical ideas regarding the management process. The results were amazing.

Section B

Tell me about a difficult challenge or problem you've faced and how you handled it?

I am no stranger to working under pressure when limited time is given to complete the task. Once I had to make a report, which was increasingly important for the reputation of the outlet. We had the report due and got statistics back late from one of our team members in Texas. As the well-written report had to rely heavily on qualitative data, I had to wait for my colleague to respond. Once I obtained necessary numbers I had been working all night long, because I knew that the publisher HAD to receive the report on time. Due to my quick actions and resilience we proved to be the first, who covered the public event. Needless to say, the company benefited financially from this report, as the ratings were pretty high.

Tell me about a time when someone made an unreasonable request of you. How did you react, and what happened?

I always try to be careful while rejecting someone's requests, as I know

that diplomacy is an essential skill to maintain healthy working environment. Once I had a colleague who asked me to buy her a dark purple designer bag. I was going on the business trip to New York and my co-worker knew that my hotel was located in the center of Manhattan, near numerous designer stores. I politely explained her that I am worried that she would not like my selection and that I cannot take pictures with my ill-functioning cell-phone. Instead of sending multiple emails to describe the shades of purple, I spent time doing accurate and valid research that became a framework for a successful report.

We all face disappointments in life. Tell me about a time when you had to handle disappointment or rejection.

Each disappointment in my life taught me to be perseverant in my efforts. Back in high school, I wanted to join a basketball team but the coach kept rejecting my requests. I decided to continue playing with my peers out of school to develop necessary skills, as I knew that it was a matter of skill and hard work rather than a natural ability. Eventually, I managed to become a member of a high school basketball team and contributed considerably to the most victories.