Common Traditional Interview Questions

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Why did you choose a career in _________?
3. Why would you be successful in _________?
5. Why are you interested in this position?
6. Why should I hire you?
7. What do you think it takes to be successful in a company like ours?
8. What suggestions do you have for our organization?
9. Why did you decide to seek a position with this company?
10. What are your strongest/weakest personal qualities?
11. What is the biggest mistake you've made and what did you learn from it?
12. What skills, experience, and training do you have that make you qualified for the position?
13. What are your short-term/long-term career goals and how does this position fit with those?
14. How would a professor or previous employer who knows you well describe you?
15. What would the people who work with you say about your job performance?
16. If you were hiring for this position, what qualities would you look for?
17. What is the most significant contribution you made during your internship/co-op?
18. What have you learned from participation in extracurricular activities?
19. What awards and honors have you received?
20. What do you do in your spare time?
21. How do you best motivate others?
22. What leadership roles have you held?
23. What accomplishments have given you the most satisfaction? Why?
24. Describe your most rewarding college experience.
25. Do you have plans for continued study? An advanced degree?
26. Do you feel your grades are a good indication of your academic success?
27. How do you stay professionally current?
28. With what types of people do you work best?
29. What type of relationship should exist between supervisor and employees?
30. How would you describe the ideal job for you following graduation?
31. In what kind of work environment are you most comfortable?
32. How do you work under pressure?
33. What two or three things are most important to you in your job?
34. What major problems have you encountered and how did you deal with them?
35. If your career demanded it, would you be willing to relocate for advancement?
36. Do you have geographical preferences? Why?
37. Are you willing to travel for this position?
38. What are your salary requirements?

Questions to Ask Employers

1. Does your company provide any financial assistance for further education?
2. What kinds of assignments might I expect the first six months on the job?
3. What products or services are in the development stage right now?
4. What are your growth projections for next year?
5. Have you cut your staff in the last three years?
6. In what ways is a career with your company better than one with your competitors?
7. Is this a new position or am I replacing someone?
8. What is the largest single problem facing your staff/department now?
9. May I talk with the last person who held this position?
10. What do you (the interviewer) like best about your job/company?
11. How much authority will I have over decisions?
12. What qualities are you looking for in the candidate who fills this position?
13. What skills are especially important for someone in this position?
14. What special projects will I have the opportunity to work on?