

# 3 COMMON QUESTIONS

## PRACTICE GUIDE

TELL ME...

WHY ARE YOU...

CAN YOU...



01

## Tell me a little bit about yourself

This is the most common interview question and one of the toughest to answer. There is no right or wrong answer to this question, but there are a few mistakes job candidates make:

- Keep your answer brief (no more than 3 minutes).
  - Do not cover your full work history (cover the 2-3 most recent and relevant positions you've had).
  - End with a question or transitional statement that allows the interviewer to flow into the next question.
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02

## Why are you applying to this position?

This question comes in a variety of phrasing such as, "what attracted you to our company?" or "what are you looking for in your next role?" Regardless of how it's phrased, you should keep your answer simple. A few things to keep in mind with your answer:

- Don't talk negatively about your previous role or company. Just state a fair limitation that you're looking to expand beyond or change.
  - Use this opportunity to compliment something about their company such as their culture, their products, or their mission.
  - End your answer with a question on something you're curious about learning about their company or the team.
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03

## Can you describe a time when you...

This question comes in a variety of flavors depending on your position, the most common being, "Can you describe a time you had to deal with a problem and how you handled it?" A few things to keep in mind for your answer are:

- Keep your answer brief (your answer can vary between 3-5 minutes, but avoid longer answers than that).
- Don't rush your story. Try to establish a beginning (setup), middle (problem), and end (resolution). Practice doing this within the 3 minute time limit.
- End your answer on a positive, yet humble note like, "It was a tough experience, but I think I learned a lot from it."