

Nombre: _____

1. Read about job interviews and answer the questions

Unusual Interview Behaviour

Although nervous, the average job applicant goes to a job interview prepared, well dressed and tries as hard as they can to present themselves in the best possible light so as to get offered the post.

However, as the following accounts reported by human resource professionals in an internet survey show, there are always a few exceptions to the rule!

A

A woman brought her Doberman with her to the interview and noisily chewed gum and blew bubbles all the time. She also wore an iPod and said she was multi-skilled and could listen to me and the music at the same time.

B

The interview started fairly normally but then the candidate suddenly asked if she could ring her psychiatrist for advice on how to answer a specific question. Then suddenly half way through the interview she asked me to arm wrestle with her. At the end of the interview she refused to move until I offered her the job. I had to call the police to remove her from the interview room.

C

A man arrived wearing a track suit for an interview for the position of finance director of a large international company. When I asked him what he did in his spare time, he stood up and started shadow boxing. At the end of the interview he said that, if he were offered the post, he would demonstrate his loyalty by having the company logo tattooed on his forehead.

D

A bald candidate arrived out of breath in the interview waiting room and then abruptly said that he had forgotten something. He returned ten minutes later wearing a red wig. He announced in a loud voice that he hadn't had breakfast and started to munch a hamburger and chips. Then he stretched out on the floor and started to fill in his expenses claim form. After that he took out a copy of Penthouse and flicked through looking only at the photos. Five minutes into the interview he stood up without saying a word and left.

1) What is the typical attitude of a job applicant when he goes to an interview?

2) Why didn't the first candidate take off her Ipod?

3) Why did the interviewer of the second candidate call the police?

4) How did the third candidate claim he would prove his loyalty to the company?

5) What did the fourth candidate go to look for just before starting the interview?

2. Go on reading about these unusual interviews and fill in the blanks with a linking word

E

A young woman confidently told me that she was _____ well qualified that if she didn't get the job, it would prove that I was incompetent. She _____ asked to have a look at my CV to check _____ I was qualified to interview her.

F

A female candidate told me arrogantly that she really didn't want to get a job, _____ the unemployment office needed proof _____ she was looking for one, in _____ for her to claim unemployment benefit.

G

_____ the candidate came into my office, she started to bounce up and down on my carpet and told me that I obviously had a very good job _____ my office carpet had such a thick pile. _____ the end of the interview she took a photo of me with her mobile phone, saying that she collected photos of everyone who interviewed her.

H

Half way through the interview, a female interviewee nervously glanced at her watch and then took off her shoes and started to shake a medicated foot powder onto her feet and _____ into the shoes. _____ she was putting her shoes back on, she said in a normal voice that she had to use the powder four times a day.

3. Go on reading and fill in the gaps with ONE suitable word

I

During the interview, the candidate's mobile phone rang. He excused _____ and said it was an important call from his wife. His side of the conversation went _____ this: "OK which company is that? When would I start? And the salary?" I said to him that I assumed he was no _____ interested in continuing with the interview. But he immediately replied that he not only would like to complete the interview but he would _____ accept the job if I offered him a higher salary. The more he talked the _____ I began to doubt him. I didn't offer him the post and later found _____ there was no other job offer. It was a con trick _____ get more money.

J

The candidate came to the interview on an expensive racing bike and parked it in reception. He said that he was afraid it might _____ stolen. He also said that he _____ secure indoor parking for it, if he _____ offered the job. In the interview room he dropped his briefcase and the contents spilled out onto the carpet.

4. Read about this woman's job. Complete the text with the correct form of the verb in brackets. When you see + use a modal

The best job in the world

A lot of people are surprised when I tell them my job. That is because I say, 'I am a pilot'. What is so surprising about that? Well, I am female and, in Britain, only 300 of the 13,000 airline pilots are women.

When I was younger, I _____ (+say) I wanted to be a nurse. I changed my mind after _____ (fly) in a plane for the first time when I was thirteen. My brother and I went _____ (see) the pilots in the cockpit during the flight – you _____ (+not do) that nowadays. It was an amazing experience. I remember _____ (think), 'This is much more exciting than _____ (be) a nurse!' If I had not had that experience, I _____ (never think) of this possibility. It took me several years to become a pilot. First, I _____ (+get) a Commercial Pilot's Licence and take a complete medical examination. Then, to fly passenger planes, I _____ (require) to fly 1,500 hours as a trainee pilot and pass a written exam. After that, when I _____ (qualify), instructors checked my flying skills every six months.

At the moment, I _____ (work) on short flights between Manchester and European destinations like Barcelona, Nice and Milan. Some people say that this is not as hard as _____ (fly) long distances to America or Asia, but I disagree. The sky above Europe is the busiest airspace in the world. It _____ (+make) flying difficult,

LEVEL A6

PAPER 1 / 18

especially when the weather is bad. Anyway, I hope that next year I _____
(+make) some long distance flights. I _____ (really look forward to) it.
Being a pilot is an incredibly responsible job. The lives of hundreds of people are in your hands. It's
essential for pilots to be prepared for anything _____ (+happen) at any time. If
you _____ (not think) quickly and stay calm under pressure, an accident
_____ (+happen).

As a first officer, I always work with another pilot, a captain. The captain sits on the left-hand side
and the first officer on the right. We share the job of flying the plane on each journey. It's safer
_____ (have) two pilots in case one of us _____ (become) ill
and is unable to fly.

I know there are easier jobs, but there's nothing as exciting as flying a plane!

5. Fred is applying for a job. Complete the interview

Interviewer: Hello, have a seat. I'm Bill Strong. _____?

Fred: Actually, I am very familiar with the area so I found my way here quite easily.

Interviewer: Good. Let's start. _____ this job?

Fred: Yes, I studied all the information and it sounds very interesting.

Interviewer: _____ your present job?

Fred: I am interested in switching fields.

Interviewer: I see, _____?

Fred: I work in sales and I've managed teams and projects. I also have a lot of contact with
customers.

Interviewer: _____?

Fred: Four years, approximately.

Interviewer: So you have vast experience. _____
_____ strengths?

Fred: I am probably best at researching for marketing purposes.

Interviewer: _____?

Fred: I am impatient with myself at times and I am hard on myself.

Interviewer: And _____?

Fred: The job should definitely help me grow in my career. I will be happy to learn and grow as I
work in a passionate company like yours.

Interviewer: You are right. There is plenty of room for advancement in our company. Tell me, then,
why _____ you?

Fred: I am a diligent person and a fast learner. I am very eager to learn. My friends also find me
very easy to work with.

Interviewer: Very well. Now, _____?

Fred: If I Got the job? I would certainly start by celebrating!!!

Interviewer: Hahaha! It's been nice to meet you. I can tell that you are a good candidate. Expect to
hear from us within a week or so about the job. Thank you for coming.

Fred: Nice meeting you too. Thank you for your time.

6. Composition. Write about 180 words on ONE of the following:

a. Working at home has more advantages than disadvantages. Discuss.

b. "It was a really foolish mistake" (first sentence)