



Play #28

MOCK INTERVIEWS

Mock Interviews

Are you ready to get hired for that summer job? Internship? Apprenticeship? Want to brush up on your interview skills? PeerForward is here to help! In this week's play, learn how to master the skills needed during a professional interview.

Make it a Virtual Play!

This play can be done "Office Hours style" where Peer Leaders publish this event online via social media with a Doodle link to sign up for a particular interview time slot. Peer Leaders would use a virtual platform (ex. Zoom, Google Hangouts, Skype, etc.) to conduct the interviews face-to-face virtually! Once complete, Peer Leaders would send back (via e-mail) the feedback forms on the participant's mock interview.

Check back each week for more virtual plays and other helpful resources:
[PeerForward Team Assets](#)

PLAY IN MOTION

Play #28: Mock Interviews

Description: No matter what career field you go into, you will likely have to do an interview at some point. With this activity, your peers will practice interviewing with teachers, staff, or outside volunteers.

Goal/Outcome: Students will learn interpersonal skills and will understand what a professional interview looks like.

Suggested Time/Audience:

- 1 hour
- 9th–11th graders

Materials/Space Needed:

- Cafeteria, auditorium, or a large space needed. Groups of chairs set up in a circle.
- “Interview Questions” handout.
- “Interview Feedback” handout.

To Prep for Event:

- Determine which students are participating, and reserve a space large enough for the group.
- Determine who will conduct the interviews. You can have teachers, staff, or outside volunteers to lead the interviews.
- Determine the format of the event. The suggested format is to break students into groups and conduct group interviews if you have significantly more students than interviewers. If you have enough interviewers, you can do the interviews one-on-one.
- Review the “Interview Questions” handout.
- Publicize the opportunity, including on social media using #PeerForward.

PLAY IN MOTION

Play #28: Mock Interviews, cont.

At the Event:

- Provide instructions and the interview prompt to students. Students should be given an evaluation sheet to bring with them to each interview.
- Interviewers should ask questions listed within each round so as not to repeat questions.
- Interviewers will spend at least 5–10 minutes completing the “Interview Feedback” handout.
- Following the interviews, ask students the following:
 - ✓ What did you enjoy about this interview process?
 - ✓ What was challenging about the mock interview?
 - ✓ Did you feel as though you demonstrated your true self in the interview?
 - ✓ Is there anything you would have done differently? Is there anything you wish would have been different about the interview?
- Record the mock interviews and, with permission from participants, post to social media using #PeerForward.

After the Event:

- If volunteers helped with the interviews, email them to thank them for their participation.
- Make sure all the students receive their feedback form.
- Debrief with team:
 - ✓ What went well? What could you improve for next time?
 - ✓ From what you could tell, what impressed the interviewers about the students?

PLAY IN MOTION

Interview Questions

Interview prompt: You are applying for a sales associate job with “Always Young.” They are looking for a motivated individual who is friendly and energetic to work part-time. Excellent customer service skills, a strong work ethic, and dependability are all a must. No prior job experience is required, but familiarity with retail sales is a plus. Weekend availability is required.

Round 1 Questions: Basic Interview Questions

- What are your greatest strengths as a professional?
- What are your greatest weaknesses?
- Pretend I work for a large company. Why should I hire you?
- What can you offer this company that other candidates cannot?

Round 2 Questions: Basic Interview Questions

- Tell me about yourself.
- What makes you unique?
- What motivates you?

Round 3 Questions: Work Ethic

- Give an example of a time when you have shown initiative—explain the situation and what your responsibility was.
- Provide an example of when you had to demonstrate leadership—give the example and explain how you were a leader in this situation.
- What are some leadership qualities you possess?

Round 4 Questions: Teamwork/Communication

- How do you handle stress or being assigned multiple projects at once?
- If a conflict were to arise with a colleague, how would you handle it?
- Do you enjoy working individually or within a group setting?
- If you were to receive negative feedback from a supervisor, what would you do?

PLAY IN MOTION

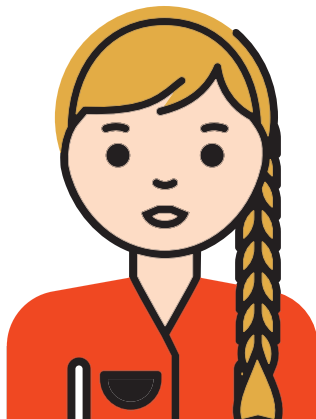
Interview Questions, cont.

Round 5 Questions: Personality Questions

- What are three words your friends would use to describe you? Do you agree with them? If not, what three words would you choose?
- What is your favorite book and why?
- What are you most proud of and why?

Other Questions (If You Need More):

- Where do you see yourself in five years? Ten years?
- What do you hope to do professionally in the short term? In the long term?
- What are other lifelong goals you have?



Knowing how to answer these questions will help you with any job opportunity in the future-- it's never too early to start practicing!

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Interview Feedback

Name of Interviewer:

Name of Student/Interviewee:

Place a check mark next to the statement if it applies to the interviewee:

- Interviewee seemed calm during the interview.
- Interviewee did not fidget during the interview or have any other nervous habits.
- Interviewee spoke clearly and with the appropriate volume.
- Interviewee gave relevant and appropriate answers to questions.
- Interviewee made eye contact with interviewer(s).
- Interviewee did not cut others off or talk too much.
- Interviewee seemed engaged and interested in the interview.
- Interviewee was professional during the interview.
- Interviewee's body language was not rude or off-putting.

Any other comments to add?

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