Interview Questions

I read a very interesting article recently that chatted about interview questions. The discussion revolved around the questions you should ask during the interview. It's vital that. The questions you ask make an impression on an interviewer. I once interviewed for a position and throughout the interview I was asking questions. The interview became very conversational rather than a question-and-answer session. As we completed the interview, the general manager asked if I had any questions. I replied that I had been asking them during our discussion. He was impressed. I did get the job.

This is where you research becomes vital in your interview preparation. Not only check out the company from financials to corporate culture but check out the interviewers. Use your friends Google and LinkedIn. You ask the question how to discover the interviewers? Easy ask HR. They should provide you with their names. Check websites like Glassdoor and LinkedIn to find out others who work for the company, even to the appropriate department. You want to get as much information as you can about the company.

Now that you have the info, develop your questions so for the deeper dive during the interview. You have scratched the surface. The interview is the opportunity to get the interviewer's take on your research. You want to uncover any info under "those rocks" because you will now be making a decision that will impact the next period of your life, be it a couple of years or beyond.

Another extremely useful resource for interview prep is the MOAA website, www.moaa.org. I've chatted about this in the past (and will not stop). Under the transition page, you will find a wealth of recorded webinars and new ones to attend. Here is a list of the current ones posted under the subtitle of Interview prep.

Transition and Career: Interview Prep and Salary Negotiations

- Combating Ageism: Job Search Tips for Transitioning Servicemembers, Veterans, and Military Spouses
- Expert Tips on Interview Preparation
- Salary 101
- Salary Negotiation and Upward Mobility
- Interview Quicksand ... and How to Steer Clear of It

Once you have the questions, it's time to practice. Grab a bud or spouse and have them interview them. A mentor is also a great coach in this prep. Practice includes your questions as the conversation flows. You don't want to be canned in your approach. By this I mean you want the conversation to flow. However, you want to feel comfortable including your questions in the interview.

Your transition and, hopefully, the onboarding to the new company will be a lot easier. Expectations on both your part and the company's will be much clearer going in. Best of luck. And remember to smile.

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