



Lesson Plan

Job Interview: What Do They Want to Know?

Created: 08/2017 by the National FFA Organization

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After completing these activities students will...

1. Discover what employers are looking for when asking interview questions.
2. Construct answers to typical interview questions.
3. Demonstrate their job interviewing skills.

TIME REQUIRED: 30 minutes

RESOURCES:

1. FFA.org
2. Article: "Interview Question Translation," <https://www.agcareers.com/employer-guide-articles.cfm?id=182>
3. Website: AgExplorer, www.agexplorer.com

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

1. A copy of the "Oh...That's What They Want!" worksheet for each student
2. Internet access for students to see the article or copies for each student

THIS QUICK LESSON PLAN WOULD WORK WELL AS PART OF:

1. A career unit.
2. A job interview lesson/unit.

THESE ACTIVITIES ARE ALIGNED TO THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS:

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-A.Action: Assume responsibility and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired results, no matter what the goal or task at hand.
- FFA.PL-F.Continuous Improvement: Accept responsibility for learning and personal growth.
- FFA.PG-I.Professional Growth: Assume responsibility for attaining and improving upon the skills needed for career success.
- FFA.PG-J.Mental Growth: Embrace cognitive and intellectual development relative to reasoning, thinking and coping.
- FFA.CS-M.Communication: Effectively interact with others in personal and professional settings.

AFNR Cluster Skills

- CS.05. Describe career opportunities and means to achieve those opportunities in each of the Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources career pathways.

Common Core- Writing

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Common Core- Speaking and Listening

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.2 Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- CRP.02. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive.
- CRP.04. Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason. Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal and/or visual methods.
- CRP.10. Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals. Career-ready individuals take personal ownership of their own educational and career goals, and the regularly act on a plan to attain these goals.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Communication

- Initiative and Self-direction
- Leadership and Responsibility

LESSON PLAN:

- 1. Introduction:** To help students understand the necessity of acquiring and practicing effective interview skills, ask them the following questions:
 - a. "How many of you like to get new things like clothing, phones, music and cars?"
 - b. "In order to get new items, what does it take?" (Help them get to the response "money.")
 - c. "How many of you have to buy your own items right now?"
 - d. "Eventually, all of you will be paying for your own *new* items, which will only be made possible from the money you make in a job or career."
 - e. "As a result, how do you plan to convince an employer to hire you when you're in an interview?"
- 2. Activity:** Each student needs a copy of the handout "Oh...That's What They Want!"
 - a. Give students a copy of the "Interview Question Translation" article. The direct URL is <https://www.agcareers.com/employer-guide-articles.cfm?id=182>. Have the students use the article to complete the handout.
 - b. After students have completed the handout, have them take the career assessment on AgExplorer, at www.agexplorer.com.
 - i. Once the student completes the assessment, have them choose one career from their list they want to learn more about.
 - ii. Have students read over the career profile for their chosen career and identify one open position for that career from AgCareers.com (they can access these from the profile page) they will interview for.
 - c. After the students have identified the job they will interview for, have them practice answering the interview questions discussed in the handout with a partner. In addition to these questions, have them develop two additional questions to ask. Each student should play the role of interviewer and interviewee.
- 3. Follow-up:** At the completion of the activity, have the students share what they learned about job interviews. Have students share personal experiences if they have gone through job interviews.
- 4. Leveling Up:** Allow the students to apply the skills learned in the activity by working with your advisory group, local alumni or general business professionals in the community to conduct mock interviews where students can apply the skills learned in the activity. This will be great practice for their future interviews.

NAME: _____

Oh...That's What They Wanted!

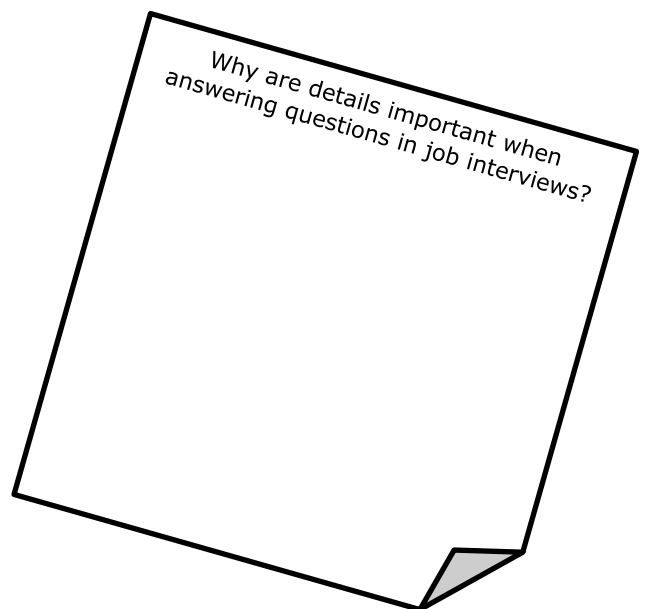
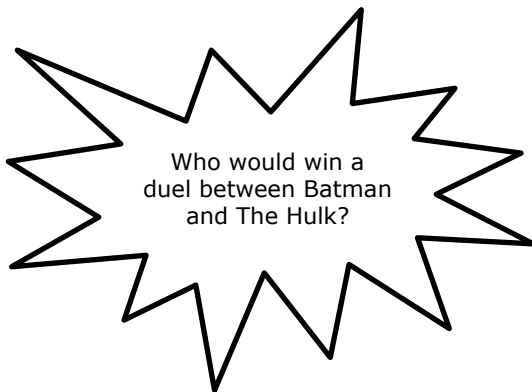
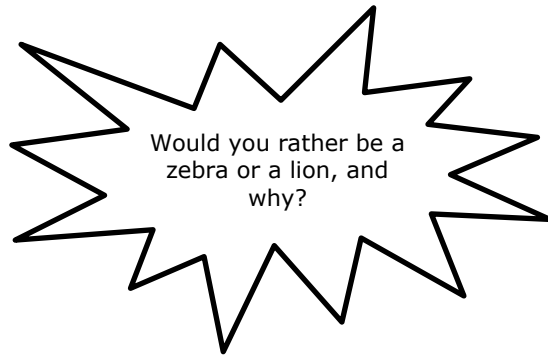
DIRECTIONS:

Utilize the article "Interview Question Translation" to complete the handout.

Question	What are Employers Looking For?	Your Answer
Tell me a little about yourself.		
What is your biggest weakness?		
Tell me about a time when you made a mistake.		
Where do you see yourself in five years?		
Why do you want to work for our company?		
What are you most proud of?		

Brainteasers:

1. Why would an employer ask you brainteaser-type questions?
2. Practice answering the brainteasers below.



KEY: Oh...That's What They Wanted!

DIRECTIONS:

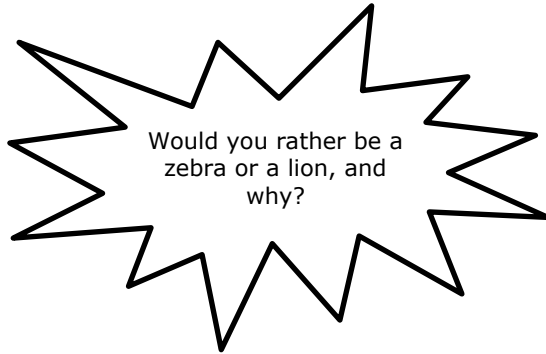
Utilize the article "Interview Question Translation" to complete the handout.

Question	What are Employers Looking For?	Your Answer
Tell me a little about yourself.	This information is used to gain an understanding of what you are passionate about, what makes you tick and drives you.	Answers will vary
What is your biggest weakness?	They are looking for you to be honest and show a little humility. It shows you are self-aware.	Answers will vary
Tell me about a time when you made a mistake.	They are looking for how accountable you are and to hear how you learned from this mistake.	Answers will vary
Where do you see yourself in five years?	They are looking for you to be realistic and honest.	Answers will vary
Why do you want to work for our company?	They are looking for you to have done your research on the company. It is OK to share how the company will benefit you, but you need to focus on how you can benefit the company.	Answers will vary
What are you most proud of?	They are looking for you to show a sense of accomplishment. Make it specific and try to relate it back to the organization if possible.	Answers will vary

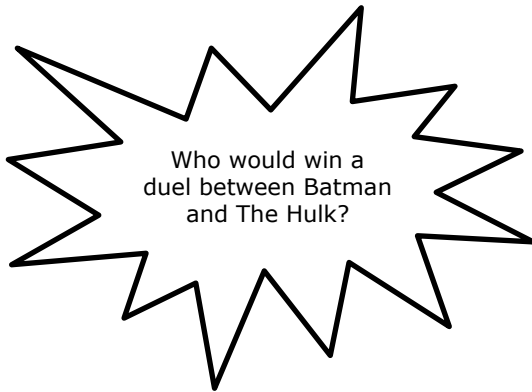
Brainteasers:

1. Why would an employer ask you brainteaser-type questions?
They are testing your ability to think outside the box and show your sense of humor.

2. Practice answering the brainteasers below.



Answers will vary



Answers will vary

