



Example Interviews

Informational Interviews

Scenario: High school students interview a professional in the Cybersecurity and Information Technology industry to learn about their career path and workplace environment.

A local company at the forefront of advancements in Cybersecurity and Information Technology is contacted by a local Career and Technical Education (CTE) teacher about holding informational interviews with small groups of students as part of a class assignment. The students are in their first year of a Computer Science pathway and would benefit from focused, professional interactions that will help them solidify decisions regarding their college and career goals. To help the students in preparing for the interview, the employer shares resources related to their organization and industry. This gives students a starting point in determining what questions they would like to ask.

Because the company's headquarters is located near the high school, it is determined that the group of six students, accompanied by their teacher, would travel to the company worksite to conduct the interviews. The students and teacher arrive in the afternoon for the interviews and check-in at the front desk. The employer provides a brief introduction to the students and guides everyone to a designated office space. Students interact with the employer for a total of 30 minutes. After the interview, the employer shares their contact information with the students and teacher to keep professional communication open and ongoing.

Mock Interviews

Scenario: A high school hosts a mock interview fair for students to practice their interviewing skills with engaged employers.

As part of a Freshman Career Exploration course, ten local employers are invited to participate in a mock interview session. After confirming their attendance, the employers receive information regarding the date, time, location, and check-in procedures for the experience, as it is held at a local high school gymnasium.

On the day of the interviews, employers check-in at the school's front office and are directed by student ambassadors to the gymnasium. Once all employers are present, the course teacher provides an overview of the experience and materials that they need, including a nametag, list of questions, a rubric, and writing utensils. The teacher explains that each student will rotate to different employers, seated at arranged tables. Each interview should be approximately ten minutes, with an additional three minutes at the end dedicated to employer feedback. The teacher keeps time and is available to assist with any questions.

Sample Mock Interview Questions for Students

- Describe yourself.
- What motivates you?
- What are your career and educational goals?
- What are your strengths?
- What are your weaknesses?
- What are your hobbies?
- What is your definition of hard work?
- Tell me an accomplishment that you are most proud of.
- Do you have any questions for me?