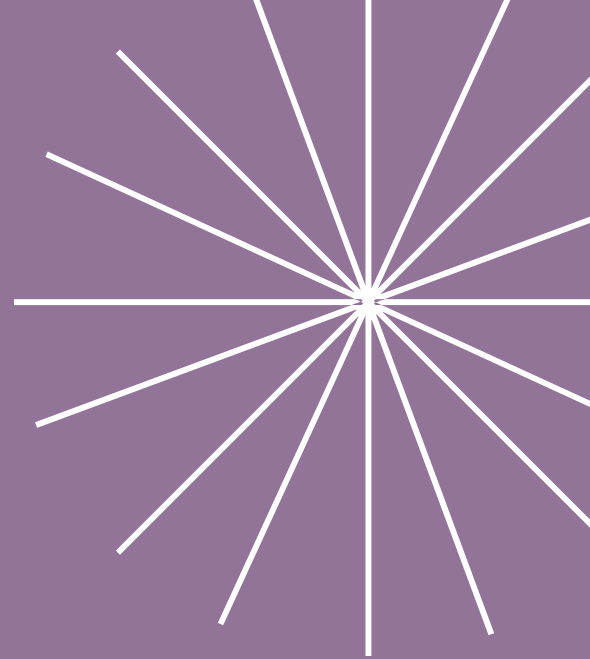




MOCK INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

BY PROGRAM AREA
ARTS DIVISION

THE LAWS OF INTERVIEW QUESTIONS



California Law:

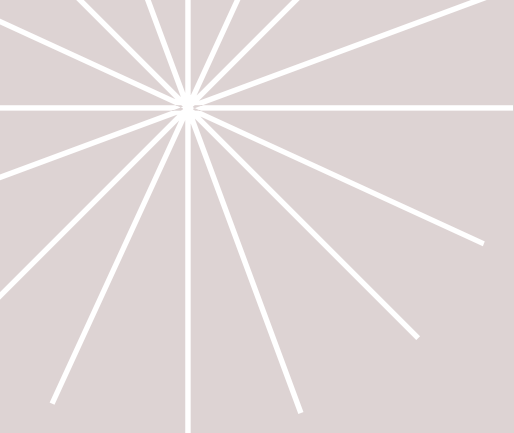
- Prohibits questions regarding gender identity and/or expression during the interview process
- “Ban the Box” law says employers cannot ask about your criminal history until AFTER a conditional offer is made
- California law prohibits employers from asking about salary history

Federal (U.S.) Law:

- Prohibits questions about age, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, or ethnicity during the interview process
- ADA: Employers cannot ask about a candidate’s disability status or medical history prior to a job offer
- It is prohibited for a potential employer to ask about pregnancy plans or childcare arrangements

Employers CAN ask about:

- Relevant qualifications, skills, experience, and education
- A candidate’s ability for work hours and/or willingness to travel
- If you are legally authorized to work in the United States



TYPES OF INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

and how to answer them

For any question you are asked, always elaborate and be specific. Assume there is an “and why?” after. Don’t answer only the question itself.

Background - Assess your personal history and relevant life context.

Offer a concise summary of your personal, academic, or professional journey that connects to the position.

Behavioral - Focus on how you’ve handled past situations.

Use the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) to describe how you handled past situations. See the STAR guide on the Career Resources page to assist you.

Educational - Reviews your academic background and achievements.

Highlight relevant coursework, projects, or academic achievements that relate to the role.

Goals - Explores your short- and long-term career objectives.

Share short- and long-term career goals that align with the position and company mission.

Critical Thinking - Evaluates your problem-solving and reasoning skills.

Explain your thought process when solving a problem or making a decision, showing logic and creativity.

Field-Specific - Tests knowledge and skills related to the industry.

Demonstrate your technical or subject-area knowledge with relevant examples or experience.

Character - Gauges your values, ethics, and personality traits.

Provide honest, values-driven answers that reflect your integrity, work ethic, and interpersonal style.

Experience - Looks at your past job roles and responsibilities.

Describe relevant roles and accomplishments, emphasizing transferable skills and growth.

ANIMATION

Background

- What inspired you to pursue animation?
- What project best represents your style?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you approach character design?
- How do you keep animations engaging?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?





GAMING

Background

- What drew you to game development?
- What game has most influenced your work?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you balance gameplay and creativity?
- Describe your design process.

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



AUDIO ARTS

Background

- What interested you in audio production?
- What audio project are you most proud of?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you ensure clean audio?
- How do you troubleshoot recording issues?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



FILM & TV

Background

- Why did you choose film and television?
- Which production role interests you most?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you prepare before a shoot?
- How do you collaborate on set?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



GRAPHIC DESIGN

Background

- How did you become interested in design?
- What design project best represents you?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you handle client feedback?
- How do you ensure designs communicate effectively?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



JOURNALISM

Background

- Why journalism?
- What story would you most like to cover?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you verify sources?
- How do you remain objective?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



PHOTOGRAPHY

Background

- What inspired you to become a photographer?
- How would you describe your style?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you prepare for a shoot?
- How do you adapt to changing conditions?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



RADIO

Background

- Why radio or broadcasting?
- What excites you about live media?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you engage listeners?
- How do you recover from an on-air mistake?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



VIDEO ENGINEERING

Background

- What interested you in video engineering?
- What technical project are you proud of?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you troubleshoot equipment failures?
- How do you ensure broadcast quality?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



FINE ARTS

Background

- What inspired your artistic journey?
- Which medium do you enjoy most?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you develop a new piece?
- How do you discuss your artistic choices?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



MUSIC

Background

- What inspired you to study music?
- How has music shaped your goals?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

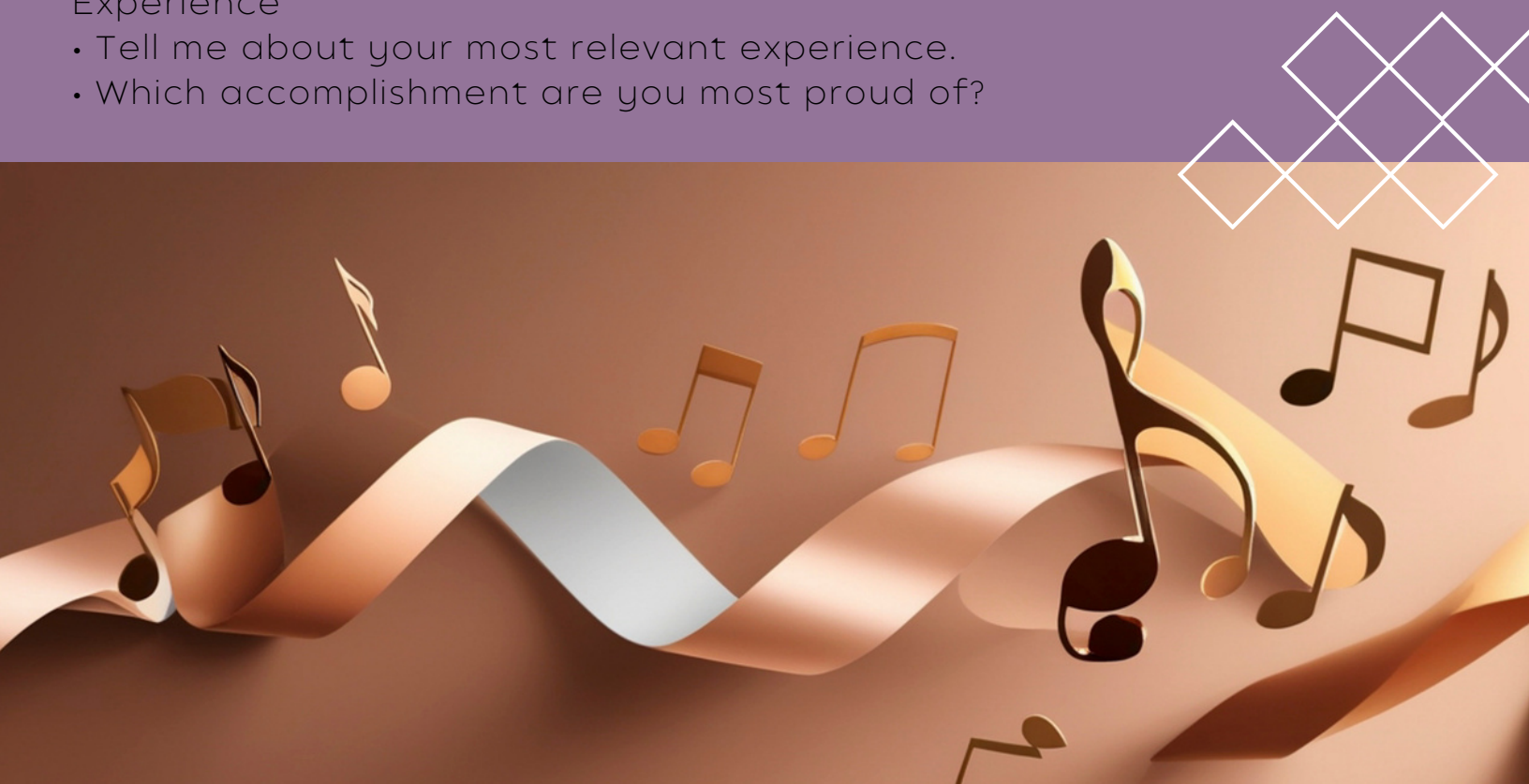
- How do you prepare for a performance?
- How do you practice difficult material?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



STUDIO ARTS

Background

- Why studio arts?
- What artwork best reflects your abilities?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you select materials?
- How do you evaluate finished work?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?



THEATER

Background

- What inspired you to pursue theater?
- Which role or production has been most meaningful?

Behavioral

- Tell me about a time you received constructive criticism on a project.
- Describe a time you had to meet a tight deadline.

Educational

- Which class has prepared you the most?
- Tell me about an academic project you're proud of.

Goals

- Where do you hope to be in five years?
- How does this opportunity fit your career goals?

Critical Thinking

- How would you prioritize quality versus deadline?
- How do you solve unexpected creative problems?

Field-Specific

- How do you prepare for rehearsals?
- How do you respond to director feedback?

Character

- Describe a value that guides your work.
- How do you build positive relationships with teammates?

Experience

- Tell me about your most relevant experience.
- Which accomplishment are you most proud of?

