



MISTAKES THAT WILL PUT A QUICK END TO YOUR NEXT INTERVIEW

After developing a strong resume and making it to the job interview, the last thing you want to do is make an obvious mistake. Here are some common issues and ways to avoid these if you really want that dream job.

Arriving late: This is an immediate show-stopper since the first impression you make is negative. Being late tells a potential employer that you really don't care about or value their time. It also tells a potential boss that you'll be habitually late if you get the job.
Solution: Arrive 10 minutes early and use this time to collect your thoughts and check your appearance in the bathroom before the interview starts.

Talking negatively: Many job seekers believe they need to speak negatively about a previous employer during the interview. This is unprofessional and makes you appear like someone that's difficult to work with. It also makes the hiring manager wonder what you might say about them if you're given the job.
Solution: Instead of being negative about a previous situation, say that you've "learned something from all past employers" which is true since you learned what you didn't like in a boss or work environment.

Not answering a question: Unless the question is inappropriate or illegal, you should always attempt to answer. Realize that answers about a completely different topic can make a hiring manager think you're avoiding their question or hiding something.
Solution: If the question is unclear, ask them to repeat it. If you need to think for a few minutes, do so. After this, answer their question as best you can.

Lack of good questions: This mistake can indicate that you didn't prepare for the interview or that



you're not interested in the position. Since both of these are negative, you always need to have several questions ready when given the chance to ask.
Solution: Do your homework before the interview and have questions about the position, company, and industry ready. You should also have some general or generic questions on-hand to ask such as "tell me what you think is the greatest challenge in this position" or "tell me about the culture of this organization." Lastly, take a note pad along and write questions as the interview and employment discussions evolve.

Appearing desperate: Employers tend to avoid these candidates since not knowing why they're desperate can make a potential boss think they're just interested getting a pay check versus landing a job or career.
Solution: Avoid being labeled as desperate by appearing calm, relaxed, and confident. Smile and ask good questions which helps deflect perceptions of being desperate during an interview.

