What is a Behavioral Interview?

A behavioral interview is an assessment of your past experiences and your ability to navigate certain situations relevant to the position. In contrast to a technical interview, which assesses hard skills, the behavioral interview focuses more on your soft skills, such as communication and leadership. Unless specified otherwise, dress in business causal or business professional for consulting interviews. Sign up for a practice interview at the Career Exploration Center.

Standard Behaviorals

You should be able to answer all these questions comfortably. Do company/organization-specific reserach in advance to ensure that your responses are tailored to its missions and values.

- Why consulting?
- Why did you want to work for this company/organization specifically?
- What experiences can you leverage to contribute to growing this company/organization?
 - Have 1-2 specific experiences that strongly relate to the skills needed for the position
- How can this company/organization contribute to your personal growth?
- How would you resolve a conflict with an uncooporative client?
 - Highlight your interpersonal skills and ability to resolve conflict in a concise anecdote
- What is your typical role in a team setting?
- What kind of leader are you?
- List 3 strengths/weaknesses
 - Make sure to discuss how you are working on improving your weaknesses
- Walk me through your resume (highlight certain experiences, not all!)
 - Avoid running through your entire resume, instead focus on the most relevant experiences
- What is a recent story or article you've read in the news?
- Do you have any questions for me?

Sample Brainteasers

Brainteasers serve a dual purpose: the interviewer not only wants to see if you can come up with a solution, but they also want to observe your thought process and creative problem-solving skills.

- Name 10 different uses for a red solo cup
- If you were a shoe, what would you be and why?
- Why are tennis balls fuzzy?
- Describe the color yellow to a blind person
- Explain the Internet to someone coming out of a 30-year coma
- What is the most unethical thing you would do?
- How would you fight a bear?
- Teach me a party trick

General Tips

- Know your current events and be familiar with the industry trends
- Bring a pen/pencil and notebook/paper for casing
- Ensure that you answer questions concisely
- Keep a positive and personable attitude throughout the interview
- Always thank your interviewer afterwards and express appreciation for their time