

MOCK INTERVIEW PREP SHEET

To make the most of your upcoming mock interview at Career Services, you will find it helpful to complete the action steps listed below

1

Focus on your personal pitch and narratives

Can you describe your most relevant experiences in 2 minutes and leave an interviewer with an impression of the type of person you would be to work with?

Can you identify a common theme that connects your experiences to your future role?

Types of questions:

Tell me about yourself? Why do you want this job? Why should we hire you? Walk me through your resume

Resources: Take a look at posts on the Penn & Beyond blog (including [this one](#)) and the Career Services [interviewing advice](#) pages

2

Demonstrate an interest in the organization/company

Do you know what the employer does, and more importantly, how they do it?

Can you describe how their different parts fit together, and where your future role fits in?

Do you understand their product, its value, and the problem it solves?

Types of questions:

What do you know about us/our work? Why are you interested in our company? Who are our main competitors? What do you know about our product/mission/goals?

Resources: Company website. Follow the company on LinkedIn and read some of their posts. Speak to Penn alumni who might work there (or used to work there). View the [Vault Career Insider](#) & [Glassdoor](#)

3

Prepare your stories and examples

People remember stories more than generic answers to questions, what are yours?

Have you thought about what stories you need/want to tell to illustrate your experience?

Prepare good stories, and look for every opportunity to use them in answering questions.

Types of questions:

What is your greatest strength? [give a specific example of what it is – you should have plenty, after all]

What will you bring to this organization? [mention skills, then illustrate the key ones with stories]

Resources: Learn about the STAR approach [here](#). Think about how a small number of stories can easily be adapted and reframed to answer many of [these behavioral questions](#)

4

What are your questions?

Can you demonstrate your interest in the organization and the role by asking questions that help the interviewer picture you in that role?

Ask questions about projects, teams, and what results look like for people in your role.

Types of questions you can ask:

What would you hope the person in this role would have achieved in 3 months? Which projects are the greatest priority for the person in this role, and why? Who would I be working with the most?