

Interview Situational Role-Playing

TAKE TURNS ENACTING THE BELOW SCENARIOS AS REALISTICALLY AND HONESTLY AS POSSIBLE:

1. You are applying for a job in a fancy restaurant in Northampton (good tips, high expectations). During your interview, you are asked, among others, the following questions. How would you respond to each:
 - a. Why do you want to work here?
 - b. What do you see as your strengths and weaknesses?
 - c. Do you have any questions to ask me?

2. You have a spotty work history. A year or two ago, you didn't take your responsibilities that seriously and were fired from a couple of jobs - one for not showing up and not calling in. You have left these off of your resume on purpose, but this has caused it to look a little "light" in terms of experience. How would you respond to the following questions:
 - a. I'm looking at your resume here, and there are some large gaps of time where you seem to have not been working. Would you like to tell me something about these periods of time?
 - b. Do you have any other work (or other experience) that is not on your resume that you would like to let me know about?

3. You are a woman applying to work at a restaurant with a popular bar attached to it. The "gentleman" that interviews you seems to be checking you out in a non-professional way. He asks you questions which make you a little uncomfortable, though nothing overtly inappropriate - questions like: "are you shy?", "Are you willing to be flexible in terms of what you wear?". How would you respond to this situation?

4. In this same interview (situation 3), your interviewer makes the off-hand comment, "you're not gay, are you?". How would you respond to this?

5. You're in an interview, and the woman interviewing you seems really nice. She is very relaxed and disarming. She jokes with you in a way that seems designed to put you at ease. You have a good sense of humor yourself, and contemplate joking back with her, in the tone that she has seemed to set. Should you do this?

6. Your interviewer has been speaking with you for a good 20 minutes, but has mostly asked you about yourself, your background, experience, personal qualities, etc. You have been told almost nothing about what the job entails.