

Tell Me About Yourself



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After the webinar, you will receive a copy of the slideshow deck with everything which was covered during the webinar and more via email.

Feel free to stay connected after the webinar for our “After Class” session!

Housekeeping

Our Mission

The mission of WHW is to provide unemployed and underemployed individuals with the skills and resources they need to get and keep a good job.

- Weekly Job Search Email
- Employment Readiness Webinars
- Resume Development
- LinkedIn Profile Assessments
- Mock Interviews
- One-on-One Job Search Assistance
- Soft Skills Training
- Career Transition Assistance
- Networking Opportunities
- Special Events

Workforce Development Services

For more information, please contact our Program Manager David Vevia, at DavidV@whw.org.

Today's Presenters



David Vevia
WHW Program Manager

TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF

Agenda

- 1 Why does the question matter?
- 2 How do I answer the question?
- 3 Putting it into practice



A photograph of a meeting table with hands, pens, and a notebook. The image is slightly blurred and has a light beige tint. In the foreground, a person's hands are visible, one holding a pen over a spiral notebook. In the background, another person's hands are clasped together over a tablet or folder. A pen holder with several pens and pencils is also visible on the table.

Why does this question matter?

What Does the Interviewer Hope to Learn?



What Does the Interviewer Hope to Learn?

This is an opportunity to impress the interviewer. Focus on this employer and this position. Customize your answer to solve their problem.



Your ability to fit in



Your communication skills



Your ability to think quickly

What the Interviewer Does Not Want to Hear

This answer requires strategy and preparation. Rambling and adding superfluous details can affect the impression you make.



TOO MANY
PERSONAL DETAILS



TOO MUCH OR TOO
LITTLE INFORMATION



A RESPONSE THAT
SOUNDS UNNATURAL

Example Answer

"I'm happily married and originally from Denver. My husband was transferred here three months ago, and I've been getting us settled in our new home. I'm now ready to go back to work. I've worked in a variety of jobs, usually customer service-related. I'm looking for a company that offers growth opportunities."

Example Answer

They moved once – will they move again?

What did she do in customer service?

She's looking to grow – will she be happy?

Example Answer

WHY SHOULD THEY HIRE HER?

A photograph of a meeting table with hands, pens, and a notebook, overlaid with the text "How do I answer this question?". The image shows a close-up of a wooden table with several hands. One hand is holding a pen over a spiral notebook, another is clasped, and a third is holding a pen. A pen holder with various pens and pencils is visible in the foreground. The text is centered in a large, black, sans-serif font.

How do I answer this question?

Best Practices

Tailor Your Answer

①

Be Succinct

②

Stay Positive

③

Practice, Don't Memorize

④

Add Passion

⑤



Crafting Your Answer

01

Review the job description to become familiar with the requirements of the role. Research the company's mission and values.

02

Prepare a short script to highlight your past skills, career motivations, and why you want to work at the company.

Your Answer Formula

PRESENT, PAST, FUTURE

Sample Answer

“Well, I’m currently an account executive at Smith, where I handle our top performing client. Before that, I worked at an agency where I was on three different major national healthcare brands. And while I really enjoyed the work that I did, I’d love the chance to dig in much deeper with one specific healthcare company, which is why I’m so excited about this opportunity with Metro Health Center.”

Your Answer Formula - Present

Summarize what you have done in your most current role that qualifies you for this opportunity.

- Start with a brief overview of your current job
- Orient the details of your recent role to how it relates to the position
- Include a few strategic skills that would help you excel in the role

Formula - Present

"Currently, I work at XYZ Restaurant as a hostess. I've been there for just over two years. My responsibilities include greeting and seating customers, assessing wait times, fulfilling to-go orders and answering the phones. I love the lively and busy environment of XYZ Restaurant—we often have Friday and Saturday wait times of one hour or more."

Let's Practice



Current Job

How does your most recent position prepare you for the role?



Top Skills

What top skills should you emphasize?

Summarize what you have done in your most current role that qualifies you for this opportunity.

Your Answer Formula - Past

How did you get to be here?
Focus on your education or an important experience from the past that directed your passion.

- What makes you unique?
- Mention experiences or success that relate to the position
- Include a few strategic skills that would help you excel in this role

Formula - Past

"Before working at XYZ Restaurant, I worked in retail as a floor associate for a year. This role really developed my customer service skills as I was consistently assisting customers in the store. It also equipped me with the ability to work in a team environment."

Let's Practice



Your Uniqueness

What makes you unique and different from other candidates?



Your Experience

How does your background and experience relate to this position?

How did you get to be here? Focus on your education or an important experience from the past that directed your passion.

Your Answer Formula - Future

What are you looking to do next in your career? Focus on the next logical steps to advance your skills and career.

- Why does this position interest you?
- How is this job the logical next step for your career?
- What is it about working for this company that interests you?

Formula - Future

"I am looking to further develop my customer service and problem-solving skills as a hostess in a restaurant environment. I am interested in your restaurant specifically as it has a great reputation for delivering first in class customer service to your patrons while being in a lively and dynamic environment."

Let's Practice



Career Path

How does this position help you in your career path?

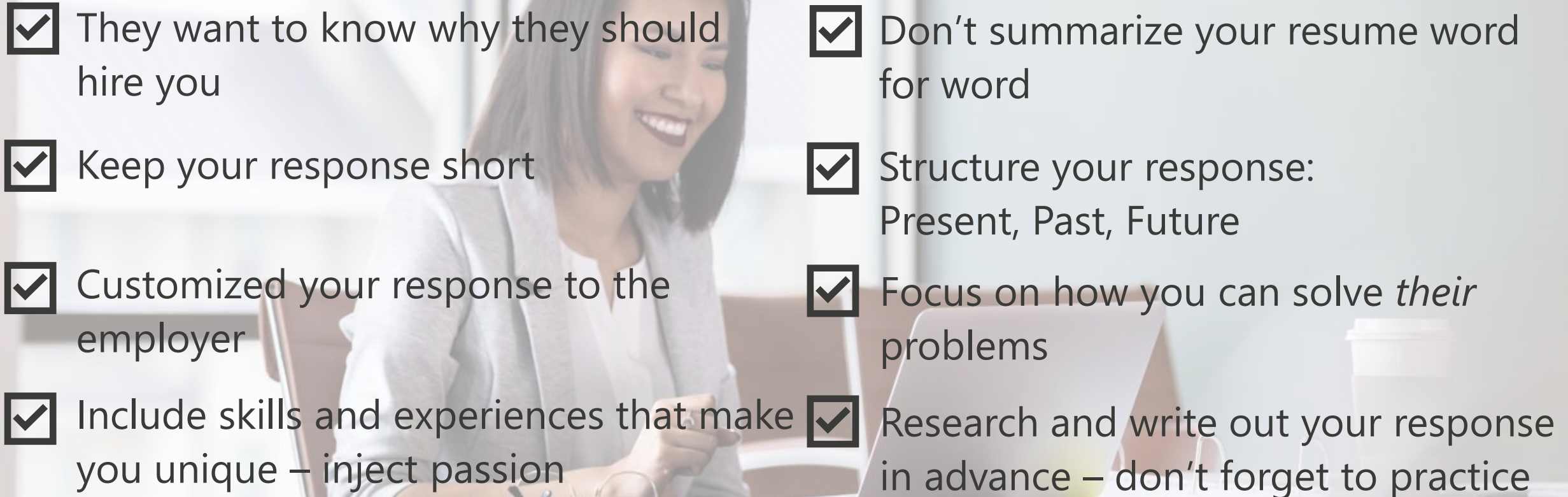


Keep it Specific

Why this role? Why this organization?

What are you looking to do next in your career? Focus on the next logical steps to advance your skills and career.

Review

- 
- ✓ They want to know why they should hire you
 - ✓ Keep your response short
 - ✓ Customized your response to the employer
 - ✓ Include skills and experiences that make you unique – inject passion
 - ✓ Don't summarize your resume word for word
 - ✓ Structure your response: Present, Past, Future
 - ✓ Focus on how you can solve *their* problems
 - ✓ Research and write out your response in advance – don't forget to practice

Homework

- 1 *Write out a second draft of your complete response*
- 2 *Practice answering this question with a friend or family member*

A person wearing a light-colored suit jacket and a blue shirt is sitting at a wooden desk. Their hands are clasped together on the desk. In the foreground, there are some papers and a pair of glasses on the desk. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Remember this is the time to tell your story
– make it great!

Questions?

Stay connected for our ***After Class*** and enjoy a casual time of discussion and networking!

Contact DavidV@whw.org for more job search assistance!