Preparing for Your Case Interview

Objectives

1. Understand the importance of preparing for case interviews and be able to describe the characteristics of case interviews.
2. Identify and locate Career Center resources and other information related to preparing you for the case interview.

Characteristics and Components of a Case Interview

Importance of a Case Interview

The characteristics of case interviews include:

- Situational based
- No right or wrong answer
- Assessing logical and creative-based critical thinking skills

These questions can include real-world problems that the company is working/has worked on. For example:
You may be asked to analyze a decline in profits for a particular service or resource, identifying why that would be the case, and offering recommendations and implementations on addressing this issue.

Purpose of Case Interviews

A case interview is an interactive way for an employer to test a candidate's knowledge on industrial trends, logical but creative solutions, and ways to implement change. This is most common in the business and information technology industries. Case interviews test an individual's ability to utilize structure, logic, and an intelligent approach to solve the type of problems that would arise in the industry. Although there is generally no correct answer, you are expected to ask the interviewer logical questions regarding the case and then make a thorough recommendation to solve the problem.

Summary

Preparation is key to enhancing outcomes of the case interview process. Candidates who ~~assess and~~ possess the ability to communicate their skills and demonstrate how they logically and creatively think through real-world problems may find themselves experiencing interviews that are more successful. It is recommended to utilize the following resources, complete a Mock Interview, and attend an Interviewing workshop.

Activities and Resources

Meet with a Career Advisor about additional information and/or resources that might be helpful for your technical interview. See Hours of operation: http://www.career.fsu.edu/about-us/hours-of-operation

- Drop in hours at the Career Center Library
- Career Liaison to the College of Arts & Sciences: Physical Sciences, Technology, & Mathematics
- Career Liaison to the College of Business
- Career Liaison to the College of Communication and Information

Schedule a Mock Interview to hone your interviewing skills while developing confidence in your ability to deliver strong interview performances. www.career.fsu.edu/mock-interview

Attend a Nole to ProfessioNole Ace the Interview workshop. Learn how to ace the interview from start to finish. Career.fsu.edu/workshops

View Career Spot Videos on how to successfully prepare for and perform well in an interview. http://www.career.fsu.edu/students/prepare-for-the-next-step/career-spots

Review Interviewing Guides such as The First Job Interview, Preparing for a Telephone Interview, Preparing for your Second Interview and Preparing for a Technical Interview. http://www.career.fsu.edu/resources/career-guides

Visit the Career Portfolio platform to view sample Business, Computer Science, and Information Technology portfolios. http://career.fsu.edu/portfolio/sample-portfolios

Visit the following online resources:
- **The Vault**
  http://www.vault.com/blog/interviewing/what-is-a-case-interview/
- **The Vault Guide**
  http://access.vault.com/category.aspx?id=99025
- **Vault/Rocket Blocks - Mastering the Case interview**
  https://goo.gl/G14SYS
- **PWC Case interviews**
  https://www.strategyand.pwc.com/nl/home/careers/apply/business-case-prep
- **Live Career**
  https://www.livecareer.com/quintessential/case-interviews
- **Case interview**
  http://www.caseinterview.com/
- **The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) Practice Case interviews**
  https://www.bcg.com/careers/path/consulting/practice-interview-cases.aspx
- **University of Michigan Careers in Consulting**
  https://michiganross.umich.edu
- **Career Roadmap: Consulting**
  https://www.crc.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Consulting-Roadmap.pdf

Visit the Career Center Library to view books related to preparing for the Case Interview.

General Interview Preparation

Ace Your Interview………………………………………………………………………………………..VB W4
Boost Your Interview IQ..VB M3
Interview Preparation Binder..VB C62
Knock 'Em Dead Job Interview: How to Turn Job Interviews into Job Offers.............................VB Y3
Sell Yourself!: Master the Job Interview Process...VB W5

Skill-Based/Technical Interview Preparation

Case in Point: Complete Case interview Preparation..VB C6
How to Get Into Top Consulting Firms: A Surefire Case interview Method...................................VB D3