

EPISODE 90
LEVEL B2

READING COMPREHENSION



JOB INTERVIEWS

With unemployment so high, and often **scores of** (= a large number of) applicants chasing every job, you have to count yourself lucky to be called for an interview. If it is your first, you're bound to be nervous. But don't let the **jitters** (= a feeling of nervousness that you experience before something important happens) **side-track** (=to direct a person's attention away from an activity or subject towards another one that is less important) you from the main issue- which is getting this job. The only way to do that is by creating a good impression on the person who is interviewing you.

1. Find out as much as you can about the job **beforehand** (= in advance)
2. **Jot down** (= to take notes) the qualifications and experience and think about how they relate to the job.
3. Be on time.
4. Be clear and **concise** (= short and clear, expressing what needs to be said without unnecessary words)
5. Don't give the interviewer a hard time by **giggling** (= laughing), yawning, rambling on unnecessarily or appearing **cocky** (=describes a young person who is confident in a way that is unpleasant and sometimes rude) or argumentative.
6. Stress poor aspects of yourself and always show your best side especially your **keenness** (= being keen to do sth) to work and your sense of responsibility.
7. **Sell yourself short** (= to not consider someone or something to be as valuable or good as they deserve) - which doesn't mean exaggerating or making your interests seem unimportant.
8. Get prepared and ask questions at the end of the interview about pay, **perks** (= fringe benefits, sth added to your salary), **in-house trainings** (= trainings organised at work internally), **pension scheme** (= programme of pension contributions).



EXERCISE 1

Decide which of these statements are true or false:

1. During an interview you should be over-confident.
2. Nervousness can help you during an interview.
3. Your qualifications must be presented in a cocky way.
4. Not many applicants are invited for job interviews.

ENGLISH IN USE



Word formation:

EXERCISE 2

Add more examples of nouns formed from the verbs and adjectives listed:

NOUNS FROM VERBS:

accept achieve agree approve astonish collect create decide direct employ
encourage entertain imagine improve insist insure prefer produce propose protect
replace resist retire survive

- MENT :

- ANCE :

- ENCE :

- ION :

- TION :

- ATION :

- AL :

NOUNS FROM ADJECTIVES:

absent aware brilliant careless efficient fluent formal happy important lonely
nervous patient polite popular possible present private proficient real rude
secure selfish significant simple

- NESS :
- ANCE :
- ENCE :
- ITY :
- CY :

EXERCISE 3

Use the words given to form a word that fits in the space, words are already in a good order:

difficult modernize use train computerize know employ aware recognize replace

One of the people have in their work these days is coming to terms with Technology is changing fast, and many of the skills we learn today may no longer be..... in the future. We should all expect to be several times during our working lives. The experience of is typical. Today computers are used in every business. Without a good working of computers you can't expect to find these days. It is also absolutely essential for employees to have an of how various software applications work. Although computers are more user-friendly than they used to be, keyboard skills are essential. Voice technology is unlikely to provide a for the keyboard –whose layout is exactly the same as an old-fashioned typewriter.

IDIOM CLOSE-UP



EXERCISE 4

SHORE STH UP = HELP TO SUPPORT STH THAT IS WEAK OR GOING TO COLLAPSE

HANG IN THE BALANCE = TO BE UNCERTAIN

GO TO THE WALL = TO FAIL BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF MONEY

AT THE 11TH HOUR = AT THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT

Rewrite the sentences using the correct form of the word in capitals. Keep the meaning the same:

1. A management buyout emerged at the last possible moment. HOUR =
2. There are fears that the company could fail. WALL =
3. Their future is uncertain. HANGS =

4. Government refuses to support an ailing company. SHORE =

PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP



Many phrasal verbs have more than one meaning:



EXERCISE 5

Replace the words with a phrasal verb with COME and GO using the words in brackets:

1. While I was going through my drawers I found(across) these old love letters.
2. You shouldn't wear those red socks, they don't match.....(with) your grey suit.
3. The beach is washed clean by the sea when the tide rises(in), and you can see the rocks sticking out of the water when the tide falls(out)
4. The date on this yoghurt is 1May, it must have gone bad.....(off) by now.
5. A bomb has exploded..... (off) and several people have been hurt.
6. She left.....(off) at 7 a.m. and we never saw her again.
7. He entered (in for)the competition and won the cruise.
8. Before we continue..... (on), let's examine(over) the correct answers to this exercise.

NEWS



NEW TRENDS IN JOB INTERVIEWS

“Are you interested in a new trend in job interview questions - or perhaps an old trend newly **revived**? Lynne Sarikas, director of the MBA Career Center at the Northeastern

University business school, believes that more and more businesses are asking unusual job interview questions as part of their candidate job interview process.

Microsoft's job interview questions are legend (examples include: How many golf balls does it take to fill a 747? Why is a **manhole** cover round?). (But, Microsoft, at least in their developer interviews, appears to have moved away from puzzle questions and is asking candidates to solve white board code problems during interviews.)

But, other employers are using unusual questions in their candidate selection process for new reasons. The job search advice industry is so **prolific** that any candidate who researches knows he should prepare **brief** responses in advance to **frequent** standard questions. These include job interview questions such as: "what are your strengths and weaknesses" and "what makes you the most qualified candidate for this job."

Revived = to come or bring something back to life, health, existence, or use

Manhole = a covered opening in a road that a worker can enter in order to reach underground pipes, wires, or drains that need to be examined or repaired

Prolific = producing a great number or amount of something

Brief = very short

To frequent = to be in or visit a particular place often, or to do sth very often

KEY TO EXERCISES

Ex. 1

1. F
2. F
3. F
4. T

Ex. 2

Accept achieve agree approve astonish collect create decide direct employ
encourage entertain imagine improve insist insure prefer produce propose protect
replace resist retire survive

- MENT : achievement, agreement, astonishment, employment, encouragement, entertainment, improvement, replacement, retirement,
- ANCE : acceptance, , insurance, resistance,
- ENCE : insistence, preference,
- ION : collection, creation, decision, direction, protection
- TION : production,
- ATION : imagination
- AL : approval, proposal, survival

absent aware brilliant careless efficient fluent formal happy important lonely
nervous patient polite popular possible present private proficient real rude
secure selfish significant simple

- NESS : awareness, carelessness, happiness, loneliness, nervousness, politeness, rudeness, selfishness,
- ANCE : brilliance, importance, significance,
- ENCE : absence, patience, presence,
- ITY : formality, popularity, possibility, reality, security, simplicity,
- CY : efficiency, fluency, privacy, proficiency,

Ex. 3

difficult modernize use train computerize know employ aware recognize replace

One of the**difficulties**..... people have in their work these days is coming to terms with**modernization**..... Technology is changing fast, and many of the skills we learn today may no longer be.....**useful**..... in the future. We should all expect to be**retrained**..... several times during our working lives. The experience of**computerization**..... is typical. Today computers are used in every business. Without a good working**knowledge**..... of computers you can't expect to find**employment**..... these days. It is also absolutely essential for employees to have an**awareness**..... of how various software applications work. Although computers are more user-friendly than they used to be, keyboard skills are essential. Voice**recognition**..... technology is unlikely to provide a**replacement**..... for the keyboard –whose layout is exactly the same as an old-fashioned typewriter.

Ex. 4

1. A management buyout emerged **at the 11th hour**.
2. There are fears that the company could **go to the wall**.

3. Their future is **hangs in the balance**.
4. Government refuses to **shore up** an ailing company.

Ex. 5

1. While I was going through my drawers I found**come across**.....(across) these old love letters.
2. You shouldn't wear those red socks, they don't match.....**go with**.....(with) your grey suit.
3. The beach is washed clean by the sea when the tide rises**comes in**.....(in), and you can see the rocks sticking out of the water when the tide falls**goes out**.....(out)
4. The date on this yoghurt is 1May, it must have gone bad.....**gone off**.....(off) by now.
5. A bomb has exploded.....**gone off**..... (off) and several people have been hurt.
6. She left.....**went off**.....(off) at 7 a.m. and we never saw her again.
7. He entered**went in for**..... (in for)the competition and won the cruise.
8. Before we continue.....**go on**..... (on), let's examine**go over**.....(over) the correct answers to this exercise.