Strength & Weakness

Highlighting your "fit" with the firm

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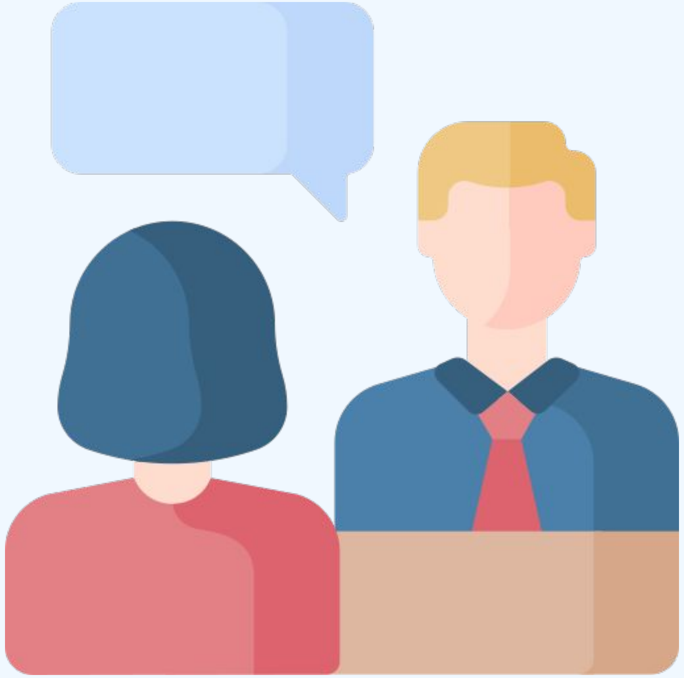
General Overview: The "Fit" Question

Reflect on your past experiences and find genuine examples to substantiate your claims

Strength and weakness should be personalized and relevant to you

Both strengths and weaknesses should highlight your professional growth



Your responses should demonstrate self-awareness and authenticity.

Remember to tailor your examples to the specific position and company

Strength & Weakness

Discussing your Strengths

Strengths should clarify and highlight areas you excel

Focus on personality traits and soft skills, not technical abilities as those can be easily learned

Tailor your strengths to the position and the firm—show how it aligns with their needs

Discussing your Weakness

Frame weakness as areas of growth and development

Show self-awareness and a commitment to improve on your weakness with specific actions

Avoid clichés and never blame/speak negatively about your teammates or former colleagues

Structuring Your Response

A reminder of the STARR Method discussed in module two

SITUATION

Set the context by describing the circumstance or challenge you faced

TASK

Explain your responsibilities or what you were asked to accomplish

REFLECTION

Share what you learned and how you've grown from the experience

ACTION

Describe the specific actions you took to address the situation

RESULT

Explain the outcomes of your actions, preferably with quantifiable metrics

Example: Strength

Analytical Problem Solving

- **S** During my internship at XYZ, our team was facing challenges with a complex merger valuation model.
- **T** As such, I was asked to review the model and identify potential discrepancies in our cash flow projections.
- **A** I systematically analyzed each component of the model, cross-referenced historical data, and developed a more accurate forecasting methodology
- **R** The revised model identified a 12% valuation discrepancy, which led to a more accurate pricing strategy and ultimately a successful deal completion
- **R** This experience reinforced my ability to approach complex financial problems methodically and deliver results under pressure.

Example: Weakness

Public Speaking

S During my junior year, I was responsible for presenting a financial analysis to senior executives during a case competition.

T I needed to clearly articulate our team's investment recommendation in a high-pressure setting.

A While I had thoroughly prepared the content, my anxiety affected my delivery. I spoke too quickly and skipped key points. I later enrolled in a public speaking course and joined Toastmasters

R Through deliberate practice, I've improved significantly. In my most recent presentation, I received positive feedback on my clear communication.

R I continue to practice by volunteering for presentation opportunities and recording myself to identify areas for improvement