

WILL YOU LAND THE JOB?

(Or land back home?)

Take this quiz and add up your points to see if you'll nail the job interview—or if you need to rethink your strategy.



1 What will you wear to your interview?



- A. I'm going all out with a suit and tie, or a professional dress or pantsuit. *5 points*
- B. My interview style is business-casual. Maybe I'll wear a tie, but no promises. *3 points*
- C. I'll dress casually, to better show off my personality. *2 points*

2 Did you do any pre-interview research?



- A. No—it's about the interviewer getting to know me, not the other way around. *2 points*
- B. Lots. I looked at the company website, and am well versed in its key products and services—plus I looked up the interviewer on LinkedIn®. *4 points*
- C. I know a little already, and plan on learning more during the interview. *3 points*

3 How would you respond: "Have you worked with a difficult co-worker?"



- A. "Yes—let me tell you how I handled the situation; I have a great example to share." *5 points*
- B. "No comment. Next question please." *1 point*
- C. "I had a horrible situation. My manager was the worst, too. What a nightmare the whole thing was." *2 points*

4 What's your game plan for interview day?



- A. I plan to arrive on time, and will run through my elevator pitch on the drive there. *3 points*
- B. I will arrive early, with notes on the company and questions for the interviewer—and a spare resumé, just in case. *4 points*
- C. I'll just wing it. Thankfully, I've always got my cell phone with me so I'm ready for anything. *1 point*

5 What will you do after the interview?



- A. I don't want to seem overzealous, so I won't contact them. I'll wait a few weeks before I give up on the job. *1 point*
- B. I'll thank the interviewer for their time with a handshake as I leave, and wait to hear back from them. *2 points*
- C. I will immediately send an email or note thanking the interviewer, and remind them why I'm a good fit. *3 points*

6 BONUS QUESTION: What's most important to highlight during an interview?



- A. My technical and interpersonal skills, and how I align culturally with the organization. *10 points*
- B. I'll focus mainly on my education, technical skills, and work experience. *6 points*
- C. By mentioning other interviews I have, I will show how in-demand I am. *3 points*

Your score:

21 – 30+ points:

Moving up in the world.



You've given yourself the best advantage to land that job by walking into the interview well dressed and on time! You even practiced your elevator pitch so you can confidently articulate what a good fit you are. **Well done!**

11 – 20 points:

Moving in the right direction.



Next time, research the company and their products or services, and have questions to ask the interviewer. Most hiring managers (85%) say ungratefulness will keep you from moving forward, and many (34%) say the follow-up matters—so send a thank you email.

1 – 10 points:

Moving back to your parent's basement?



Brush up on a few pointers for the next interview:

- Dress to impress—hiring managers decide in 15 minutes if they'll hire you.
- Arriving late or using a cell phone guarantees an interview flop.
- Be patient—it may take 3 weeks to 3 months before any offer is extended.
- Showcase your technical and interpersonal skills, and explain how you're a good fit with the organization's culture.

