

Civil Engineer Interview Questions

1. Share an experience in which your diligence of inspecting equipment, structures, or materials helped you identify a problem or the cause of a problem.

2. Provide an experience in which your advice regarding design, construction, or program modifications or structural repairs benefited your company.

3. What is the most challenging part of budgeting for you?

4. Name a time when your advice to management led to an improvement in your company or otherwise helped your employer.

5. Provide an example of when you set expectations and monitored the performance of subordinates. What guidance and direction did you find most effective?

6. In your experience, what is the key to developing a good team? (Look for how they build mutual trust, respect, and cooperation.)

7. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

8. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

9. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)

10. Share an experience in which you oversaw the assembly, fabrication, construction, maintenance, or modification of equipment. How did you communicate to the staff what you wanted?

11. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

12. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

13. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

Civil Engineer Interview Questions

14. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

15. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

16. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?

17. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

18. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?

19. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

20. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.

21. Tell me about a time when your ability to analyze needs and product requirements helped you create an effective design or make an informed decision to benefit your company.

22. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

23. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

24. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.

25. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was

Civil Engineer Interview Questions

the impact?

26. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

27. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

28. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.

29. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

30. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did you see in the person's knowledge or skills?

31. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

32. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

33. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

34. Tell me about the last time you oversaw the work of someone else. How did you effectively motivate, develop, and direct the worker(s)?

35. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

36. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

37. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

Civil Engineer Interview Questions

38. Describe an experience in which you identified the educational needs of your students and successfully developed a way to teach/train them.

39. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

40. What is the key to success when communicating with the public.

41. Share an experience in which you conducted a test of a product, service, or process and successfully improved the quality or performance.

42. Share an experience in which you successfully managed and direct staff members. What methods made you successful?

43. Tell me about your last experience recruiting, interviewing, or hiring an employee. What techniques did you find most effective in finding the right person for the job?

44. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.

45. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

46. Share an effective method you have used to ensure projects conform to design specifications, safety standards, and sanitation standards.

47. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)

48. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.

49. Share an experience in which computing load requirements, grade requirements, water flow rates, or material stress factors helped you determine effective design specifications.

Civil Engineer Interview Questions

50. Provide an effective method you have used to test soils and materials to determine adequacy and strength.

51. What factors do you consider when determining project feasibility?

52. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)

53. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

54. Describe an effective transportation or hydraulic system or structure which you planned and/or designed.

55. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.

56. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)

57. Provide an experience in which your analysis of topographical and/or geologic data helped you to effectively plan a project .

58. Provide an example when you were able to prevent a problem because you foresaw the reaction of another person.

59. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?

60. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?

61. Share an experience in which you prepared and/or presented a successful public report. What methods led to your success?

62. Share an experience in which you successfully directed the survey of a construction site.

63. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?

Civil Engineer Interview Questions

64. What is the key to a successful budget?

65. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

66. Describe a time when you successfully persuaded another person to change his/her way of thinking or behavior.

67. Provide an experience in which your study of traffic patterns, environmental conditions, or a similar condition helped you successfully identify an engineering problem or assess the potential impact of your project.

68. Share an experience in which personal connections to coworkers or others helped you to be successful in your work. (Make sure candidate works well with others.)

69. Describe an effective risk management strategy which you developed. How did you identify the risks?

70. Provide a time when you successfully directed engineering activities. How did you ensure compliance with regulations?

71. Share an experience in which you developed and/or implemented an engineering solution to clean up contaminated sites.

72. Describe a system you engineered which helped to effectively dispose of toxic wastes.

73. Tell me about an energy efficient or environmentally sound civil structure which you designed.

74. Describe an effective method you have used in the identification of engineering solutions to minimize output of pollutants in manufacturing processes.

75. Describe an experience in which your ability to work well with others and reconcile differences helped your company or employer. (Make sure the candidate knows how to negotiate.)

Civil Engineer Interview Questions

76. Provide an experience in which your ability to actively find ways to help people improved your company or your own work ethic.