

Qualities and Goals

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Why did you choose to study at Cornell? Why did you major in ?
3. What are your goals for the next three (or five, or ten) years?
4. What motivates you to learn something new?
5. What adjectives would others use to describe you?
6. Describe a project or initiative that you consider particularly successful.
7. Tell me about a time when you were involved in a conflict. How did you resolve it?
What was the outcome?
8. Give me an example of a leadership role you've held and what you accomplished.
9. Discuss a big risk you took and tell me how it turned out.
10. Describe an ethical dilemma you faced and how you dealt with it.
11. What are your three greatest strengths and weaknesses?

Abilities/Achievements

1. What achievement has been most satisfying, and why?
2. What is your work style in a fast-paced environment?
3. Tell me about a particularly challenging problem that you've faced. How did you respond? What did you learn?
4. If you are in a situation where you do not know a certain topic, how did you deal with it?
5. Describe a time when you successfully balanced several competing priorities.
6. Describe a situation in which you had to take a risk. What did you learn from the experience?

Skills and Experience

1. Walk me through your resume.
2. How do you plan and organize a major project?
3. What experience do you have working on a team?
4. What extracurricular activities have you enjoyed the most?

Curveballs

1. What's the last book you read? / What's the last podcast you listened to? How did it impact you?
2. Where do you get your news from?
3. If you could invite anyone, dead or alive, to lunch, who would it be?
4. What kitchen appliance are you most like?
5. Can you teach me something I don't know?
6. Can you describe what your perfect day would look like?

7. Name a public figure you admire or who inspires you.
8. What do you think is the most pressing problem facing America today?

Questions About Problem-Solving

1. Give an example of an occasion when you used logic to solve a problem.
2. How do you handle a challenge?
3. Did you ever make a risky decision? Why? How did you handle it?
4. Give an example of a goal you reached and tell me how you achieved it.
5. Give an example of a goal you didn't meet and how you handled it.
6. When you worked on multiple projects, how did you prioritize?
7. Give an example of how you set goals and achieve them.

Questions About Teamwork

1. Have you gone above and beyond the call of duty? If so, how?
2. Have you had to convince a team to work on a project they weren't thrilled about? How did you do it?
3. Give an example of how you've worked on a team.
4. Have you handled a difficult situation with a co-worker/teammate? How?
5. What do you do if you disagree with a coworker/teammate?

Questions About Stress

1. Describe a stressful situation at work and how you handled it.
2. Tell me about how you worked effectively under pressure.
3. How did you handle meeting a tight deadline?
4. What do you do when your schedule is interrupted? Give an example of how you handle it.

Questions About Self-Knowledge

1. Have you been in a situation where you didn't have enough work to do?
2. Have you ever made a mistake? How did you handle it?
3. Did you ever postpone making a decision? Why?
4. Did you ever not meet your goals? Why?