# 2 JOB INTERVIEW SOFT SKILLS

#### 1. What do you think might be the stages of a job interview?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2mrRICNZqA

What did you think about the candidates – David and Sarah?

### 2. Look at the adjectives below and think about their antonyms. Use prefixes where possible.

Example: decisive – indecisive, determined – doubtful/hesitant/reluctant

decisive	determined
energetic	enthusiastic
open-minded	flexible
hard-working	helpful
responsible	persistent
rational	straightforward
reliable	impulsive
tactful	dependent
(sef-)confident	arrogant

## 3. Complete the sentences about yourself. They should be true.

I think I'm quite
I'm not at all
I'm sometimes
I tend to be rather
People say I'm
I can't stand people who are

Interviews usually start with a question: **What can you tell us about yourself?** Think about a short introduction to present yourself in an interview. Incorporate some sentences from the previous exercise. Be ready to talk about yourself for 2 minutes.

**4. Speaking about preferences.** Did you use the last sentence from ex. 3 in your presentation? Transform it, so that it sounds more polite, using some of the structures below.

I'd rather... / I'd rather not ...
I'd rather you...
Well, I was hoping to/for...

Use the structures above to make sentences about your preferences for these situations:

work in a small / large team they will send you to Spanish-speaking countries

they will give you a cell phone but not a car work in an office / in the field

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- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

## 6. Compare your ideas with the questions on the list. Are your questions there?

Some of the questions from the list are either illegal or just rude. Which ones?

- 1. Tell me about yourself.
- 2. When were you born?
- 3. Where do you see yourself in five years?
- 4. Are you willing to relocate?
- Are you willing to travel? 5.
- 6. Are you willing to work overtime?
- 7. What is your race?
- 8. What are your hobbies and interests outside of work?
- Do you have physical or mental disabilities?
- 10. What jobs did you have as a teenager?
- 11. Who are your references?
- 12. Are you taking any prescription drugs?
- 13. How do you feel about air travel?
- 14. What do you do to maintain your health?
- 15. Do you have any physical problems that limit your abilities?

- 16. How do you balance career and family?
- 17. What is your greatest strength?
- 18. Have you ever been arrested?
- 19. Would working on weekends conflict with your religion?
- 20. What is your greatest weakness?
- 21. Do you work better alone or as part of a team?
- 22. Do you consider yourself to be organized? Manage time well?
- 23. Are you a risk-taker?
- 24. Are you a self-starter?
- 25. How do you react to criticism from supervisors?
- 26. How well do you handle change?
- 27. Are you opposed to doing a lot of routine work?
- 28. How do you resolve disputes with co-workers?

#### 7. What questions might you ask in an interview? Think about those areas:

- typical working day:
- more info about the position:
- perks:
- travels:
- prospects for growth and advancement:
- outcomes of the interview:

You can make questions more polite by changing them into indirect questions. Change your questions from ex.7 using the phrases below:

*I wonder... (I was wondering* – even more polite)

I would like to know...

Can you tell me... (Could you tell.../Could you possibly tell...)

Would you mind telling me...

Do you mind if I ask...

Do you happen to know...

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**8. Body language.** Which of the tips below are dos, and which are don'ts of a body language in an interview?

mirror move about sit with your arms crossed smile make eye contact
wave your hands sit up straight scratch yourself have a balanced handshake
slouch lean forward a little when asked questions touch your face

9. Watch interviews with Daniel and Sarah. Why are / are not they successful?

Use some adjectives from ex. 2 at the beginning of the lesson.

Daniel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5K8o2nYAA6U

Sarah https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRiaznQevTA

**HOMEWORK:** MORE ABOUT 'UNREAL PAST' USED IN EX. 4

Transform the sentences so that the meaning stays the same.

1.	It's time for you to go to bed now.					
	It's time you	_ now. (3 words)				
2.	I'd rather go home now.					
	I'd rather we	home too. (1word)				
3.	Why on earth did you accept this invitation?					
	I'd rather you	this invitation. (3 words)				
4.	I didn't sleep long enough last night, I studied into the small hours.					
	I wish I to	bed earlier last night. (2 words)				
5.	My PC is so old, but I have no money to buy a new one.					
	If only I mone	ey, I a brand new	PC. (1-, 2 words)			
6.	Since she enrolled on the violin class she's been playing the instrument all the time					
	If only she	it at night, she'd be an ideal	neighbour. (3 words)			
7.	Who advised her to enrol on the violin class?					
	If only she	on the violin class. (3 words	3)			
8.	The ground is as dry as a bor	ne.				
	If only rain	ı. (2 words)				
9.	"Can I borrow your laptop?"	"I'd rather you	_" (2 words)			
10.	I don't think the programme	you are watching is suitable for	you, kids.			
	I'd rather you	something else kids (1 w	ord)			

#### Sources

Job Interview - handout by Agnieszka Suchomelová-Połomska

https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/adjectives-personality.htm

http://www.resumagic.com/job\_interviews.html

https://www.totaljobs.com/careers-advice/interviews/body-language

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