

How to answer the dreaded “Tell me about yourself” interview question

The guidance below is intended to help you prepare and deliver a memorable response to this question. Please consider the questions listed in the steps below. We have provided two examples to highlight different experiences. A strong response to this question can set the tone for the rest of the interview.

EASTIN TIPS	EXAMPLE: Marketing	EXAMPLE: Human Resources Management Track
STEP #1: What do you get excited about? / What are you passionate about?		
<p>This is an opportunity to tell the interviewer something fun or interesting about yourself that they might not learn during the course of the interview.</p> <p>Another way to think of the question is: “What gets you up in the morning?” Everyone has something interesting to share about themselves.</p>	<p>“I have always enjoyed being part of athletic teams as I was growing up.”</p>	<p>“I have always enjoyed leading and mentoring young people.”</p>
STEP #2: What is an example of a time when your passion contributed to your success or to the success of a group you part of?		
<p>Sharing your accomplishment shows you’re striving to improve yourself. When people are motivated by contributing to something bigger than themselves – something with purpose and meaning – they derive more satisfaction.</p>	<p>“My senior year I was captain of our baseball team. We were having a great season, but experienced some setbacks due to injuries. I felt it was my responsibility to coach and mentor my peers through these challenges. As a result, we made the playoffs and ended up regional champs. Later my coach told me my actions were key to our improvement.”</p>	<p>“Throughout college I worked during the summers earning money to help pay for my tuition. I worked as a counselor at a faith-based youth camp where I was responsible for leading a group of 6th graders. I gained valuable experience in developing my communication skills. I also learned how to assess an individual’s needs and adapt my approach to help them be successful. It also made me realize how much I enjoyed seeing others grow and develop as a result of my influence and actions. “</p>
STEP #3: How does your experience correlate to the position you strive to achieve?		
<p>Information you share showcases a unique facet of yourself – this is your opportunity to link it to what you can bring to the job.</p> <p>Be sure your responses are authentic and truthful, because if you inflate your accomplishments, you run the risk of exposing yourself.</p>	<p>“I feel the attributes of leadership and working with others from a team perspective, would be a great fit for the Marketing Promotions Representative opening you have. I am very excited about the potential opportunity to work on a team again and learn more about the various aspects of the company.”</p>	<p>“It was this experience that led me to pursue my current HR Management degree program, secure an HR internship last summer and why I am very interested in your entry level HR Representative position. I feel the experiences I have described make me a strong candidate for your opening and I am confident this is the right career path for me. “</p>