

ENGR 101 Interview an Engineer

Possible Questions ...

1. Describe the typical day at work.
2. What kinds of engineering problems do you encounter?
3. How much school course work is used in your job – i.e., do you use calculus and physics on the job?
4. What courses from school were most useful to you on the job?
5. What courses from school have been least useful?
6. What is the work environment like? (friendly, formal , etc.)
7. What are the people like? How is conflict dealt with?
8. What is satisfying / dissatisfying in the job?
9. Do you think you are paid equitably?
10. What do you think the trends will be in your field?
11. Knowing what you know now about your profession, would you still choose to pursue it? What would you do the same / differently?
12. What is the “corporate culture” at work? Is there one?
13. Are there any special commitments in your job – e.g., travel, overtime, social events, frequent relocations?
14. What are the future prospects for engineers in this country?
15. If you were in my shoes, how would you enter the profession?
16. What do you like best / least about working as an engineer?
17. What do you think makes a “good” engineer?
18. How important are writing and communication skills?
19. Describe your toughest job assignment.
20. What one piece of advice could you offer to prospective engineers?
21. Has the profession lived up to your expectations? Why / why not?
22. Is there flexibility in the engineering profession in terms of performing different types of jobs?

Note: A follow-up letter of appreciation is a nice way to thank the person you interviewed.