



Answering Tough Questions

It's tough to get a job without experience, and it seems impossible to gain experience without getting hired. Below are a few questions employers may ask and how you can answer them.

Why weren't your grades better? They are probably just trying to judge how you will handle adversity with this question. Make sure you don't get defensive or place blame on others. Try to put a positive spin on the question by concentrating on what you learned, and the extra effort you put in.

Why did you decide to major in history (or whatever your major is)? Show that you have a logical reason for choosing your major. If you can't defend your choice they will wonder why you chose that career path. Make sure your reasons are compatible with your career choice.

Was there a course that you found particularly challenging? They are trying to see how you respond to difficult situations. Show them that you don't give up in the face of difficulty and that you put in extra effort to meet the challenge.

Why didn't you participate in more extracurricular activities? They may be worried you don't have any outside interests and may suffer from burnout. Employers like well-rounded workers. Even if you didn't participate in much, you still want to talk about interests you have such as reading or exercising that you do. You may like to run even though you weren't on the track team.