

Chart Your Change Now Newsletter

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In This Issue

Craziest Things Said To Hiring Managers

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Dear Reader,

"Good judgment comes from experience, and often experience comes from bad judgment."

-- Rita Mae Brown



I JUST COULDN'T RESIST SHARING THIS WITH YOU!

You will laugh out loud and then maybe cry a little. It's a must read.

These responses are absolutely true. They are actual statements collected from several hiring managers. They were posted on careerbuilder.com from a recent article by Rachel Zupek.

Is this honesty to a fault or a reflection of a generation not prepared to think and act appropriately? Boundaries are good, really, really good, in every sense of the word. I'm sure that some people really do regret saying some preposterous things while under pressure or when extremely nervous. So, if you've ever said anything unfortunate in a job interview, you will be relieved to read this (it's over the top). These statements will also serve as a reminder to job seekers to do a little soul-searching and be prepared for the mine-field questions.

Read these outrageous examples of the *Craziest Things Said To Hiring Managers* in this month's feature article.

You have to tell me what you think!

Here are some examples of statements made in job interviews:

"I'm not wanted in this state."

"How many young women work here?"

"I didn't steal it; I just borrowed it."

"You touch somebody and they call it sexual harassment!"

"I've never heard such a stupid question."

I love hearing from you. Send your thoughts, questions, and comments. Click on [Just Ask Me](#).

CRAZIEST THINGS SAID TO HIRING MANAGERS

"Remember, people will judge you by your actions, not your intentions. You may have a heart of gold - but so does a hard-boiled egg."

--Unknown

Craziest Things Said to Hiring Managers

Hiring managers shared these 43 memorable interview responses:

Why did you leave your last job?

1. "I have a problem with authority." - Carrie Rocha, COO of HousingLink

Tell us about a problem you had with a co-worker and how you resolved it

2. "The resolution was we were both fired." - Jason Shindler, CEO, Curvine Web Solutions

What kind of computer software have you used?

3. "Computers? Are those the black boxes that sit on the floor next to the desks? My boss has one of those. He uses it. I don't have one. He just gives me my schedule and I follow it." - Greg Szymanski, director of human resources, Geonerco Management, Inc.

What are your hobbies and interests?

4. [He said] 'Well, as you can see, I'm a young, virile man and I'm single -- if you ladies know what I'm saying.' Then he looked at one of the fair-haired board members and said, 'I particularly like blondes.'" - Petri R.J. Darby, president, darbyDarnit Public Relations

Why should we hire you?

5. "I would be a great asset to the events team because I party all the time." - Bill McGowan, founder, Clarity Media Group

Do you have any questions?

6. "Cross dressing isn't a problem is it?" - Barry Maher, Barry Maher & Associates

7. "If you were a fruit, what fruit would you be?" - Megan Garnett, Articulate Leadership Team, Articulate Communications Inc.

8. "What do you want me to do if I cannot walk to work if it's raining? Can you pick me up?" - Christine Pechstein, career coach

9. "I was a Chamber of Commerce Executive once hiring a secretary. [The candidate asked] 'What does a Chamber of Commerce do?'" - Mary Kurek, Mary Kurek, Inc. Visibility Consulting

10. "Can we wrap this up fairly quickly? I have someplace I have to go." - Bruce Campbell, vice president of marketing, Clare Computer Solutions

11. "What is your company's policy on Monday absences?" - Campbell

12. "If this doesn't work out can I call you to go out sometime?" - Christine Bolzan, founder of Graduate Career Coaching

13. "How big do the bonuses really get once you make associate? I hear it's some serious cash." - Bolzan

14. "[The candidate asked,] 'Can my dad call you to talk about the job and the training program? He is really upset I'm not going to medical school and wants someone to explain the Wall Street path to him.' The dad did call. Then that dad's friends called and I ended up doing a conference call with a group of concerned parents ... long story." - Bolzan

15. "If I get an offer, how long do I have before I have to take the drug test?" - Bolzan

16. "When you do background checks on candidates, do things like public drunkenness arrests come up?" - Bolzan

17. "Can I get a tour of the breast pumping room? I heard you have a great one here and while I don't plan on having children for at least 10 or 12 years, I will definitely breast feed and would want to use that room." - Bolzan

18. "So, how much do they pay you for doing these interviews?" - Jodi R.R. Smith, Mannersmith Etiquette Consulting

Why are you leaving your current job?

19. "Because I (expletive) my pants every time I enter the building." - Abbe Mortimore, Human Resources Manager, True Textiles, Inc.

20. "I was fired from my last job because they were forcing me to attend anger management classes." - Smith

Why are you looking for a job?

21. "Cigarettes are getting more expensive, so I need another job." - Pechstein

22. "My parents told me I need to get a job so that is why I'm here." - McGowan

Why do you want to work for us?

23. "Just for the benefits." - Jennifer Juergens, JJ Communications
24. "My old boss didn't like me, so one day, I just left and never came back. And here I am!" - Matt Cowall, communications manager, Appia Communications
25. "I saw the job posted on Twitter and thought, why not?" - Rebecca Gertsmark Oren, Communications Director at The Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity

What are your assets? (as in strengths)

26. "Well, I do own a bike." - Pam Venné, principal, The Venné Group

What are your weaknesses?

27. "I get angry easily and I went to jail for domestic violence. But I won't get mad at you." - Pechstein

28. "I had a job candidate tell me that she often oversleeps and has trouble getting out of bed in the morning." - Linda Yaffe, certified executive coach

29. "I am an alcoholic and do not deserve this job." - Deb Bailey, owner, Power Women Magazine & Radio Show

30. "I'm really not a big learner. You know ... some people love learning and are always picking up new things, but that's just not me. I'd much rather work at a place where the job is pretty stagnant and doesn't change a lot." - Michaele Charles, Voice Communications

When have you demonstrated leadership skills?

31. "Well my best example would be in the world of online video gaming. I pretty much run the show; it takes a lot to do that." - Rachel Croce

Is there anything else I should know about you?

32. "You should probably know I mud wrestle on the weekends." - Venne

When can you start?

33. "I need to check with my mom on that one." - Bolzan

Use three adjectives to describe yourself

34. "I hate questions like this." - Katrina Meistering, manager of outreach, National Fatherhood Initiative

Tell of a time you made a mistake and how you dealt with it

35. "I stole some equipment from my old job, and I had to pay for its replacement." - Meistering

Have you submitted your two weeks' notice to your current employer?

36. "What is two weeks' notice? I've never quit a job before, I've always been fired." - Meistering

Random responses

37. "One guy [said] 'it would probably be best' if I didn't run a background check on him. Of course, I did, and learned all about his long, sordid past of law-breaking. Our client actually offered him a job as a staff accountant, but quickly retracted the offer when I had to tell them all about his recent arrest for a meth lab in his basement." - Charles

38. "[A] guy said he did not have a mailing address, as he was living in a gypsy camp at the airport." - Sandra L. Flippo, SPHR

39. "I went into the lobby to pick up a candidate. As he stood up, his trousers fell to the floor! [He said] 'Oh, my gosh -- they told me I needed a suit for the interview. I've got no money -- so I borrowed this thing. It's too big!'" - Beth Ross, executive and career coach

40. "Wow -- I'm not used to wearing dress shoes! My feet are killing me. Can I show you these bloody blisters?" - Bolzan

41. "May I have a cup of coffee? I think I may still be a little drunk from last night." - Smith

42. (During a telephone call to schedule the interview) "Can we meet next month? I am currently incarcerated." - Smith

43. "[A candidate] was asked whether he could advocate impartially on behalf of the various universities he would be representing since he had attended one of them. He responded, 'Well, I don't like to poop where I eat, but I thought my education sucked, so I certainly wouldn't put that school above the others.'" - Darby

I was going to write a piece about "What Happened to Telling the Truth" when I realized we all lie about something at some point, either to ourselves or the world and that being authentic is a place to strive for - but the idea for this article didn't quite gel, and then I came across what seemed like the opposite of lying - to the point of jaw-dropping blunder and it made me laugh. So, I hope you enjoyed reading the foibles of humanity - a mirror to our own embarrassing moments and, an opportunity for lessons learned.

PS -- If you are job hunting, take a good look at the interviewer's questions and be prepared with your own (engaging) answers before you make eye contact.

I love hearing from you. Send your thoughts, questions, and comments. Click on [Just Ask Me](#).

Have a Joyful Month,

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