

Structural Metal Worker Interview Questions

1. Share an experience in which you oversaw the assembly, fabrication, construction, maintenance, or modification of equipment. How did you communicate to the staff what you wanted?

2. Share an example when you effectively read specifications or blueprints to determine the locations, quantities, or sizes of materials required.

3. Name a time when you connected columns, beams, and girders with bolts, following blueprints and instructions from supervisors.

4. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

5. Tell me about your qualifications for and your experience handling vehicles and/or mechanized equipment.

6. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?

7. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.

8. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

9. Share an experience in which your diligence of inspecting equipment, structures, or materials helped you identify a problem or the cause of a problem.

10. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?

11. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

12. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

13. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

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14. Describe methods you have found helpful to verify vertical and horizontal alignment of structural steel members, using plumb bobs, laser equipment, transits, or levels.

15. What kind of experience do you have hoisting steel beams, girders, and columns into place, using cranes, or signal hoisting equipment operators to lift and position structural-steel members?

16. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

17. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

18. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

19. What is the most challenging part of pulling, pushing, or prying structural steel members into approximate positions for bolting into place?

20. Describe an experience when you fabricated metal parts, such as steel frames, columns, beams, or girders, according to blueprints or instructions from supervisors.

21. What kind of experience do you have riding on girders or other structural steel members to position them or use rope to guide them into position?

22. Walk me through how you assemble hoisting equipment or rigging, such as cables, pulleys, or hooks, to move heavy equipment or materials.

23. Describe an experience in which you successfully controlled the operation of a difficult system. What made you successful?

24. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)

25. Tell me about the last time when you forced structural steel members into final positions, using turnbuckles, crowbars, jacks, or hand tools.

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26. Describe methods you have found helpful to erect metal or precast concrete components for structures, such as buildings, bridges, dams, towers, storage tanks, fences, or highway guard rails.

27. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

28. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, or tested a machine or device that operates mainly by mechanical principles.

29. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?

30. Share an example when you inserted sealing strips, wiring, insulating material, ladders, flanges, gauges, or valves, depending on types of structures being assembled.

31. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.

32. Share an experience in which personal connections to coworkers or others helped you to be successful in your work. (Make sure candidate works well with others.)

33. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.

34. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)

35. In your experience, what is the key to developing a good team? (Look for how they build mutual trust, respect, and cooperation.)

36. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

37. Share your approach to drive drift pins through rivet holes to align rivet holes in structural steel members with corresponding holes in previously placed members.

38. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

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39. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

40. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.

41. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

42. Provide an example when you were able to prevent a problem because you foresaw the reaction of another person.

43. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?