

Petroleum Geologist Interview Questions

1. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

2. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

3. What have you found to be the best way to read and study reports in order to compile information and data for geological and geophysical prospecting?

4. Walk me through how you would prepare notes, sketches, geological maps, or cross-sections.

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

6. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

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

8. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

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

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

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

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

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

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14. 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.)
15. Tell me how you operate or adjust equipment or apparatus used to obtain geological data.
16. What is the most challenging part of planning and directing activities of workers who operate equipment to collect data?
17. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?
18. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.
19. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?
20. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.
21. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)
22. Share your approach to supervise oil, water, or gas well-drilling activities.
23. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.
24. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.
25. What kind of experience do you have creating photographic recordings of information, using equipment?
26. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.
27. 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.)

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28. What method have you found helpful to measure geological characteristics used in prospecting for oil or gas?

29. Describe an experience when you interviewed individuals, and researched public databases in order to obtain information.

30. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was the impact?

31. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

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

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

34. Walk me through how you evaluate and interpret core samples and cuttings, and other geological data used in prospecting for oil or gas.

35. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

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

37. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?

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

39. Walk me through how you evaluate and interpret seismic data with the aid of computers.

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40. What is the most challenging part of conducting geophysical surveys of potential sites for wind farms or solar installations to determine their suitability?

41. Name a time when you compiled data used to address environmental issues, such as the suitability of potential landfill sites.

42. What have you found to be the best way to collect data on underground areas, such as reservoirs, that could be used in carbon sequestration operations?

43. Tell me about the last time when you applied new technologies, such as improved seismic imaging techniques, to locate untapped oil or natural gas deposits?

44. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

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