

Chemist 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 experience in which you conducted standardized tests on foods, beverages, additives, and/or preservatives to ensure compliance with standards and regulations.

3. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)

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

5. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?

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

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

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

9. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

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

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

12. Share an experience in which you successfully identified cell structures and/or located bacteria or extraneous material while examining chemical or biological samples.

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13. Share an experience in which you effectively computed moisture, salt content, percentages of ingredients, formulas, or other product factors.

14. Provide an experience in which you effectively assisted a food scientist or technologist in research and development, production technology, or quality control.

15. 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.)

16. What is the state of your records of test results? What is one thing you would like to improve?

17. Describe an experience in which you successfully mixed or cultivated ingredients to make reagents or to manufacture food or beverage products.

18. Share an effective method you have used to analyze test results.

19. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

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

21. Share an effective method you have used to ensure that containers meet hardness, strength, and dimension specifications.

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

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

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

25. Provide an experience in which you successfully prepared and incubated slides with cell cultures.

26. Provide an effective method you have used to ensure that foods' flavors meet specifications.

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

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

29. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

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

31. 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.)

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

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

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

35. Share an experience in which you maintained inventories in a laboratory or a storage facility. What methods did you find effective?

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

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

38. 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.

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

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

41. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.

42. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.

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

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

45. 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.)

46. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

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

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

49. Describe a time when you successfully serviced, repaired, calibrated, or tested a device that operates mainly by electronic principles.

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

51. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.

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

53. Describe an experience in which you identified the educational needs of your students and successfully developed a way to teach/train them.

54. Share an experience in which you conducted a test of a product, service, or process and successfully improved the quality or performance.

55. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?