Research Archaeologist Interview Questions

1. What kind of experience do you have studying objects and structures recovered by excavation to identify,
date, and authenticate them and to interpret their significance?
2. Walk me through how you write, present, and publish reports that record site history, methodology, and
artifact analysis results, along with recommendations for conserving and interpreting findings.
3. What is a method you use to compare findings from one site with archeological data from other sites to find
similarities or differences? Have you tried other methods?
4. Tell me about the last time when you collected artifacts made of stone, bone, metal, and other materials,
placing them in bags and marking them to show where they were found.
5. Share an experience where you presented findings from archeological research to the general public. How
was your findings received?
6. What is your approach on leading field training sites and train field staff, students, and volunteers in
excavation methods?
7. Describe an experience where you researched, surveyed, or assessed sites of past societies and cultures in
search of answers to specific research questions. What did you find interesting?
8. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a
task.
9. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.
10. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the
candidate has open lines of communication.)
11. Tell me about a recent experience you've had working with your hands.
12. How do you stay fit in order to perform physical activities that are required in the workplace?
13. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

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14. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve
them?
15. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your
company?
16. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?
17. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine
which information was relevant?
18. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was
the impact?
19. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.
20. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)