

Principal Interview Questions

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

2. Share an effective method you have used in consulting with clients to determine functional and spatial requirements of structures.

3. Provide an example of when you set expectations and monitored the performance of subordinates. What guidance and direction did you find most effective?

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

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

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

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

8. 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?

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

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

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

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

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

Principal Interview Questions

14. 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?

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

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

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

18. Tell me about a time when your ability to analyze needs and product requirements helped you create an effective design or make an informed decision to benefit your company.

19. 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?

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

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

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

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

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

25. What is the most challenging part of budgeting for you?

Principal Interview Questions

26. 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.

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

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

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

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