

Forecaster Interview Questions

1. Share an experience when you had to broadcast weather conditions, forecasts, or severe weather warnings to the public via television, radio, or the Internet or provide this information to the news media.

2. Tell me how you prepare forecasts or briefings to meet the needs of industry, business, government, or other groups.

3. Walk me through how you study and interpret data, reports, maps, photographs, and charts to predict long- and short-range weather conditions, using computer models and knowledge of climate theory, physics, and mathematics.

4. What is the most challenging part of developing and using weather forecasting tools, such as mathematical and computer models?

5. Share what methods you use to measure wind, temperature, and humidity in the upper atmosphere, using weather balloons?

6. What kind of experience do you have operating computer graphic equipment to produce weather reports and maps for analysis, distribution, or use in weather broadcasts?

7. Describe methods you have found useful to conduct basic or applied meteorological research into the processes and determinants of atmospheric phenomena, weather, and climate.

8. What factors do you consider when you design or develop new equipment or methods for meteorological data collection, remote sensing, or related applications? Share an experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18. Walk me through how you collect and analyze historical climate information such as precipitation and temperature records to help predict future weather and climate trends.

19. Share an experience when you gathered data from sources such as surface or upper air stations, satellites, weather bureaus, or radar for use in meteorological reports or forecasts.

20. 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.)

21. Name a time when your advice to management led to an improvement in your company or otherwise helped your employer.

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

23. 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?

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

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25. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

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

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

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

29. 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.

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