

Crafting Your Career Story

Telling your Story to Market Yourself and Answer Interview Questions

Being able to tell recent stories that showcase your skills and career readiness is invaluable when interviewing or interacting with other professionals. Prior to an interview or interaction, reflect and develop stories that relate to career competencies and industry-specific skills. Use varied examples to cover aspects of your education, work experiences and other involvement. This worksheet provides a blueprint with example questions to create stories that highlight your past experiences. Utilize the STAR method to tell a story about your development in each of the eight competencies: Critical Thinking/Problem Solving, Oral/Written Communications, Teamwork/Collaboration, Digital Technology, Leadership, Professionalism/Work Ethic, Career Management and Global/Intercultural Fluency.

S

SITUATION

Set the scenario for your example.

T

TASK

Describe the specific challenge or task that relates to the question.

A

ACTION

Talk about the actions that you took to accomplish the task.

R

RESULT

Present the results that followed because of the chosen action.



Leadership

Tell me about a time when something went wrong at work and you took charge.

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Teamwork

Have you had to convince a team to work on a project they weren't thrilled about? How did you do it?

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Conflict Resolution

Have you handled a difficult situation with a coworker? How?

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Perseverance

Tell me about a time in which you were able to be very persistent in order to reach goals. Be specific.

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Time Management

When you worked on multiple projects how did you prioritize?

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Goal Setting

Give an example of how you set goals and achieve them.

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Problem Solving

How do you handle a challenge? Give an example.

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Organization

Tell me about a time when your organizational skills helped you succeed.

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Adjusting to Change

Provide me with an example of how you handled change in the workplace.

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Learning a new technology

Describe a time where you had to implement a new technology based program or tool in your work.

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____



Working with diverse populations

What opportunities have you had working and collaborating in diverse, multicultural and inclusive settings?

Situation: _____

Task: _____

Action: _____

Result: _____

NACE Career Competencies Icons

These icons represent the eight career competencies that students should have experience with in order to be career ready at graduation. Look for these symbols next to the interview questions on this handout that highlight these career competencies.



Career Management



Leadership



Global/Intercultural Fluency



Digital Technology



Critical Thinking/ Problem Solving



Oral/Written Communication



Professionalism/ Work Ethic



Teamwork/ Collaboration