

# Financial CFO Job Interview Questions And Answers



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## Financial CFO Interview Questions And Answers Guide.

### Question - 1:

Have you ever been caught stealing, or better yet, have you ever stole anything?

#### Ans:

I guess everyone takes a pen or paper or little things like that. But other than that, NO. I have never stole from my employers or better yet As Financial CFO, from anyone.

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### Question - 2:

How do you prioritize your work?

#### Ans:

Depends on the situation... I like to label certain tasks as either A B or C...A being the one that requires immediate attention, and C which are tasks that aren't urgent but eventually need to get done... I like to focus my work As Financial CFO on the things that need to get done, and done quickly... While balancing the other work alongside our first priorities.

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### Question - 3:

How well do you know our company?

#### Ans:

Well, a developed company that is gradually building their reputation in the competitive world.

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### Question - 4:

What can you offer me that another person can't?

#### Ans:

This is when you talk about your record of getting things done. Go into specifics from your resume and portfolio; show an employer your value and how you'd be an asset.

You have to say, "I'm the best person for the job As Financial CFO. I know there are other candidates who could fill this position, but my passion for excellence sets me apart from the pack. I am committed to always producing the best results. For example..."

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### Question - 5:

What did you like least about your last (or current) job As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Don't vent or focus on the negative with brutally honest answers such as "My boss was a jerk," or "The company culture was too politically correct," or "They just weren't giving me the opportunity to take my career to the next level." Instead, keep the emphasis on the positive, even though there are sure to be things you weren't happy about.

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### Question - 6:

What have you done to improve your knowledge As Financial CFO in the last year?

#### Ans:

Try to include improvement activities that relate to the job As Financial CFO. A wide variety of activities can be mentioned as positive self-improvement. Have some good ones handy to mention.

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### Question - 7:



What is your biggest weakness As Financial CFO?

**Ans:**

No one likes to answer this question because it requires a very delicate balance. You simply can't lie and say you don't have one; you can't trick the interviewer by offering up a personal weakness As Financial CFO that is really a strength ("Sometimes, I work too much and don't maintain a work-life balance."); and you shouldn't be so honest that you throw yourself under the bus ("I'm not a morning person so I'm working on getting to the office on time.")

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**Question - 8:**

Do you work well on a team? How would you define teamwork?

**Ans:**

I would define team work as getting the job done As Financial CFO whether that means if I have to do more then the guy next to me as long as the work gets finished.

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**Question - 9:**

How would you describe your approach to Financial CFO?

**Ans:**

In more general terms, a question such as this gives a candidate the opportunity to talk about their professional philosophy and skills. While the question is general in nature, the best answers are usually quite specific, picking one or two points and exemplifying them with instances from personal history.

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**Question - 10:**

How would your former employer describe you?

**Ans:**

In all likelihood, the interviewer will actually speak with your former employer so honesty is key. Answer as confidently and positively as possible and list all of the positive things your past employer would recognize about you. Do not make the mistake of simply saying you are responsible, organized, and dependable. Instead, include traits that are directly related to your work as a medical assistant, such as the ability to handle stressful situations and difficult patients, the way you kept meticulous records, and more.

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**Question - 11:**

What motivates you to succeed?

**Ans:**

Your interviewer will likely want to know the reasons why you will remain motivated to do your best during your employment with the company As Financial CFO. Perhaps you are interested in being challenged, but you may also have interest in being recognized for your hard work in the form of the number of sales you can attain. A great example answer for this question is "I always do my best in everything, including my job. I take pride in my success, and I also want the company for which I work to be successful. Being affiliated with a company that is known for its excellence is very important to me."

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**Question - 12:**

Why were you fired?

**Ans:**

OK, if you get the admittedly much tougher follow-up question as to why you were let go (and the truth isn't exactly pretty), your best bet is to be honest (the job-seeking world is small, after all). But it doesn't have to be a deal-breaker. Share how you've grown and how you approach your job and life now as a result. If you can position the learning experience as an advantage for this next job, even better.

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**Question - 13:**

Do you have any questions for me?

**Ans:**

Good interview questions to ask interviewers at the end of the job interview include questions on the company growth or expansion, questions on personal development and training and questions on company values, staff retention and company achievements.

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**Question - 14:**

Explain an idea that you have had and have then implemented in practice?

**Ans:**

Often an interview guide will outline the so-called 'STAR' approach for answering such questions; Structure the answer as a situation, task, action, and result: what the context was, what you needed to achieve, what you did, and what the outcome was as a result of your actions.

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**Question - 15:**

Have you got any questions?

**Ans:**



This is your final opportunity to persuade the interviewer that you are the right candidate for the job. Now is not the time to ask questions about holidays, pay or pensions - all these things can be asked later when you get an offer of employment. Now is the time to ask about any reservations that the interviewer may have about your suitability for the role. You will then give yourself one last chance to persuade the interviewer that you are the right candidate for the job.

Example Thank you. I think we have covered everything. Before we finish the interview I would like to take the opportunity to ask if you have any reservations about my suitability for this role?

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### Question - 16:

How do you handle stressful situations?

#### Ans:

By remaining calm, weighing out all my options and executing a plan to get the situation resolve .

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### Question - 17:

How would you motivate your team members to produce the best possible results?

#### Ans:

Trying to create competitive atmosphere, trying to motivate the team as a whole, organizing team building activities, building good relationships amongst people.

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### Question - 18:

How would you observe the level of motivation of your subordinates?

#### Ans:

Choosing the right metrics and comparing productivity of everyone on daily basis is a good answer, doesn't matter in which company you apply for a supervisory role.

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### Question - 19:

What schedule do you hope to work? Are you willing to work extra hours?

#### Ans:

Be honest. If you really want the job and are willing to work any schedule needed, say so. If, however, you have no intention of working late hours or weekends, simply let the interviewer know the hours that you are available to work. The same applies to extra hours. You are more likely to be hired if you are willing to work any time you are needed. However, saying that you are willing and then complaining about the hours once you start working is a recipe for disaster.

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### Question - 20:

What type of work environment do you prefer?

#### Ans:

Ideally one that's similar to the environment of the company you're applying to. Be specific.

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### Question - 21:

What would your first 30, 60, or 90 days look like in this role As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Start by explaining what you'd need to do to get ramped up. What information would you need? What parts of the company would you need to familiarize yourself with? What other employees would you want to sit down with? Next, choose a couple of areas where you think you can make meaningful contributions right away. (e.g., "I think a great starter project would be diving into your email marketing campaigns and setting up a tracking system for them.") Sure, if you get the job, you (or your new employer) might decide there's a better starting place, but having an answer prepared will show the interviewer where you can add immediate impact-and that you're excited to get started.

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### Question - 22:

What's a time you exercised leadership?

#### Ans:

Depending on what's more important for the the role, you'll want to choose an example that showcases your project management skills (spearheading a project from end to end, juggling multiple moving parts) or one that shows your ability to confidently and effectively rally a team. And remember: "The best stories include enough detail to be believable and memorable.". Show how you were a leader in this situation and how it represents your overall leadership experience and potential.

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### Question - 23:

Why are you leaving your current job?

#### Ans:

This is a toughie, but one you can be sure you'll be asked. Definitely keep things positive-you have nothing to gain by being negative about your past employers. Instead, frame things in a way that shows that you're eager to take on new opportunities and that the role you're interviewing for is a better fit for you than your current or last position. For example, "I'd really love to be part of product development from beginning to end, and I know I'd have that opportunity here." And if you



were let go? Keep it simple: "Unfortunately, I was let go," is a totally OK answer.

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### Question - 24:

How do you keep each member of the team involved and motivated?

#### Ans:

Many managers mistakenly think that money is the prime motivator for their employees. However, according to surveys by several different companies, money is consistently ranked five or lower by most employees. So if money is not the best way to motivate your team, what is?

Employees' three most important issues according to employees are:

- \* Respect
- \* A sense of accomplishment
- \* Recognition

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### Question - 25:

How do you think I rate as an interviewer?

#### Ans:

I think you did fine. I'm sure you've conducted a lot of interviews, and it's probably second nature for you now. Thanks for taking the time to meet with me today. I'm sure you have a lot of things you have to juggle every day.

I'd say you rate at least ten out of ten. The questions you asked seemed spot on. I can tell you guys are working hard to find the perfect applicant for the job. I'm glad I could meet with you.

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### Question - 26:

What features of your previous jobs have you disliked?

#### Ans:

It's easy to talk about what you liked about your job in an interview, but you need to be careful when responding to questions about the downsides of your last position. When you're asked at a job interview about what you didn't like about your previous job, try not to be too negative. You don't want the interviewer to think that you'll speak negatively about this job or the company should you eventually decide to move on after they have hired you.

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### Question - 27:

What was the most important task you ever had?

#### Ans:

There are two common answers to this question that do little to impress recruiters:

- \* 'I got a 2.1'
- \* 'I passed my driving test'

No matter how proud you are of these achievements, they don't say anything exciting about you. When you're going for a graduate job, having a degree is hardly going to make you stand out from the crowd and neither is having a driving licence, which is a requirement of many jobs.

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### Question - 28:

What's your salary history?

#### Ans:

When you are interviewing for a new job, it is common practice for the company to ask you about your salary history. I typically want to know what the candidate's base salary is, if they receive any bonus, the average bonus amount, and any additional compensation or perks, such as 500k matching, stock grants or stock options, paid time off and how much they are required to pay towards their medical premiums.

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### Question - 29:

What relevant work experience do you have in this career field As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Talk about specific work related experience for the position you're interviewing for. Make sure the experience is relevant. Don't talk about previous experience that is not related to the position in question. If you don't have specific career related experience speak about prior experience that has helped you develop the specific knowledge and skills required for the position you are applying for.

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### Question - 30:

How well do you perform under pressure?

#### Ans:

This is a fair question, as potential employers want to know if you're going to be able to get the job done even when things get a little bit stressful. You may say that you thrive under pressure or that you're able to get the job done even when things get a little bit stressful, just make sure to provide some real world examples of your ability to work under pressure in a prior job.

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### Question - 31:

Explain me what do you know about our company?

#### Ans:

Bad Answer: They don't know much about the company. If a candidate is serious and enthusiastic, they should have done some basic research.

Good answer: An answer that shows they've really done their homework and know what the company does, any important current events that involve the company, and the work culture.

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### Question - 32:

What is your desired salary As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Bad Answer: Candidates who are unable to answer the question, or give an answer that is far above market. Shows that they have not done research on the market rate, or have unreasonable expectations.

Good answer: A number or range that falls within the market rate and matches their level of mastery of skills required to do the job.

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### Question - 33:

Top 11 Questions to Verify Experience and Credentials As Financial CFO:

#### Ans:

Sometimes people want a job a little too bad - and they may fudge their credentials and experience a bit.

If you've run into this problem, are worried about it, or have credentials and experience that are absolutely essential, you may need to ask a few verification questions. If you are a candidate, you should review your resume and make sure you know all the key points, and that nothing has been misconstrued.

1. What grades did you get in college?
2. What were your responsibilities when you worked in job x?
3. How many people were on your team at your last job?
4. What will your previous manager/supervisor say when I ask where you needed to improve?
5. What was your beginning and ending salary at job x?
6. What were your beginning and ending titles at job x?
7. Are you eligible for rehire at job x?
8. What tools are necessary for performing job x?
9. Describe to me how you would perform [x typical job task].
10. What was the focus of your thesis?
11. When did you leave company x?

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### Question - 34:

Top 12 Stress Based Interview Questions As Financial CFO:

#### Ans:

Some jobs require employees to work under stress, and some interviewers just like to see how applicants handle stressful questions.

There are many questions designed for putting the interviewee into an awkward situation, or throwing them off, to see how they do under stress. Here are some samples.

1. How do you feel this interview is going As Financial CFO?
2. How would you handle undeserved criticism from a superior?
3. How many other jobs are you applying for?
4. What would you do if you saw a colleague stealing supplies or equipment?
5. What did you do when you had a boss you didn't get along with?
6. What would you do if a colleague took credit for your idea, and got a promotion?
7. Was the stress of your previous job too much for you?
8. What would you do if a colleague admitted to lying on their resume to get the job?
9. What would you do if a customer verbally insulted you in front of co-workers?
10. What would you change about the design of a baseball hat?
11. Why were you fired from your previous job As Financial CFO?
12. How successful do you think you've been so far?

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### Question - 35:

If you were given more initiatives than you could handle, what would you do?

#### Ans:

First prioritize the important activities that impact the business most. Then discuss the issue of having too many initiatives with the boss so that it can be offloaded. Work harder to get the initiatives done.

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### Question - 36:

If you have multiple projects on your plate, how do you handle completing them on time?

#### Ans:

Prioritize based on business importance. Set clear timelines for each so that you know which ones to knock out first. Get your teammates to help if necessary.

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### Question - 37:



Your coworker highlights your mistakes in front of everyone, how do you handle the situation?

**Ans:**

Admit to the mistake without being emotional, but then discuss how you are being proactive in getting it fixed. Lastly, pull the co-worker aside later on to tell them that you'd appreciate it if they gave you the feedback 1:1 first before throwing you under the bus.

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**Question - 38:**

Give me an example of a time when you were able to successfully communicate with another person even when that individual may not have personally liked you (or vice versa). How did you handle the situation? What obstacles or difficulties did you face? How did you deal with them?

**Ans:**

First, the key is to state the differences in personality to give the interviewer some background. Second, you want to discuss how that was affecting the situation. Third, show how you were able to adapt to the way the person wanted to be communicated with to achieve your goals

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**Question - 39:**

Give me a specific example of a time when you had to conform to a policy with which you did not agree?

**Ans:**

You want to first understand why the policy was put into effect. From there, if you truly disagree with it, explain your position to your management. If they don't change it, then you must accept their decision and continue to work or the alternative decision would be to find a new job.

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**Question - 40:**

What's been your biggest failure to date?

**Ans:**

Describe your biggest failure and discuss what you've learned from it and ideally how you've been successful since because of that lesson.

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**Question - 41:**

What are ideas or initiatives you've led and what was the outcome?

**Ans:**

Describe your most unique ideas and initiatives that had the best results for the company. Make sure you highlight your creativity, your results, your diligence and your ability to execute.

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**Question - 42:**

What are three positive characteristics you wish you had?

**Ans:**

The key here is to be honest about your wish list but then to describe how you plan on developing or growing those characteristics so that it becomes a reality. For example, I wish I had a stronger work ethic and I am reading a book right now about how to instill a better discipline around getting work done efficiently.

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**Question - 43:**

What does "collaboration with teammates" mean to you?

**Ans:**

Drinking at the water cooler together is not the best example. Think of how you can collaborate with teammates to generate new ideas, to create initiatives to impact the business' success for the better (specifically in the department that you're applying for). For example, if you're applying to marketing, collaboration could mean discussing new ways of social media advertising to reach an audience of over a million people to strengthen the brand awareness of the company.

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**Question - 44:**

What types of situations do you consider "unfixable"?

**Ans:**

Most situations are "fixable" - the ones that are not are typically related to business ethics (someone is cheating the company, someone is stealing, etc)

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**Question - 45:**

How do you feel about giving back to the community?

**Ans:**

Describe your charitable activities to showcase that community work is important to you. If you haven't done one yet, go to [www.globalguideline.com](http://www.globalguideline.com) - charitable work is a great way to learn about other people and it's an important part of society - GET INVOLVED!

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**Question - 46:**

What types of books or magazines do you typically read?

**Ans:**

Describe both your personal and professional favorites. If you happen to like professional books / magazines that relate to the industry of the company you're applying for - that's definitely worth highlighting.

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**Question - 47:**

What other companies are you interviewing at?

**Ans:**

Be open and share if you are indeed interviewing elsewhere, but do it in a humble way. This way you don't seem arrogant and the interviewer knows your skills are valued by other companies. This also tends to make them want you more as they know they are competing for your services.

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**Question - 48:**

What do you know about our competition?

**Ans:**

Make sure you do your research on their competitors. You can find this by going to yahoo finance and click on their competitors (if they are public). From there research the news on them and go to their websites to understand their positioning on solutions and vision. You can also research local regional companies that are their competition (if it's a smaller private company on a regional scale) by simply typing in similar product offerings in the Google search followed by the city. Make sure you know their competitor's vision, products, culture, and how they are differentiated against their competition (and if they're not, how they could be)

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**Question - 49:**

Why are you the best fit for this job As Financial CFO?

**Ans:**

Analyze the job responsibilities and match those to your skills sets. Then discuss how your experience and skills sets can truly create the best impact to the company in that specific job role. Impact could mean marketing impressions, sales, cutting costs, making products more efficiently, creating better customer service, engineering new designs that create customer excitement, etc.

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**Question - 50:**

How do you feel about technology at the workplace in general?

**Ans:**

It's a great enabler for us to collaborate better as a team, for us to reach customers more efficiently and frequently and I believe it can help any company become more efficient, leaner, and more productive.

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**Question - 51:**

How would you define success?

**Ans:**

Success is defined differently for everybody. Just make sure the parameters are defined by you with regards to work life balance, financial gain, career growth, achievements, creating meaningful work / products and so forth. If you can clearly articulate what it means to you that is a strong answer.

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**Question - 52:**

What would you like to have accomplished by the end of your career?

**Ans:**

Think of 3 major achievements that you'd like to accomplish in your job when all is said and done - and think BIG. You want to show you expect to be a major contributor at the company. It could be creating a revolutionary new product, it could be implementing a new effective way of marketing, etc.

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**Question - 53:**

How well do you multi-task?

**Ans:**

Multi-tasking is an important part of most jobs. You want to show that you're good at it but not overwhelmed with it. So discuss just a few things you can multi-task well on - for example: "I'm good at multi tasking between work email and working on projects As Financial CFO and the reason it because I'm good at prioritizing my work emails.

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**Question - 54:**

Give me a few examples of how you're results oriented?

**Ans:**



Make you give an example where you discuss details and metrics. For example, I was a tutor in my last job and mentored 5 students on their SAT test taking skills and raised their scores by 15% on average after a 3 month teaching stint.

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### Question - 55:

How do you prioritize your work initiatives As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Discuss how you prioritize your work initiatives based on the company initiatives. For example, if you're in customer service discuss how you're focused on providing the best customer experience.

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### Question - 56:

If I talked to your three biggest fans, who would they be and why?

#### Ans:

If you can reference three professionals with executive titles (CXO, VP, Director, Manager), that carries a lot of weight. Make sure you highlight how you've helped them achieve their biggest objectives and how that's made them your fan.

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### Question - 57:

What do you expect to be earning in 5 years As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Discuss how you expect yourself to be excellent at your job. Thus, it would be reasonable to expect pay that is based on the merit of your work.

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### Question - 58:

Describe what a "lot of work" looks like to you As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Ideally you'd like to state that you can take on a lot of work - this shows your work ethic, but at the same time it's okay to tell them that you value work and life balance.

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### Question - 59:

Give me an example of how you handled pressure at work As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

The company is looking to see if you can handle pressure well. Share with them an example where you were able to stay calm during a pressure filled situation (perhaps it was a deadline, or there was an emergency with a customer occurring). Discuss the situation, your reaction and steps you took to resolve it and the outcome.

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### Question - 60:

What techniques and tools do you use to keep yourself organized As Financial CFO?

#### Ans:

Utilizing a calendar, having a notebook with your "to do" list, focusing on your top 3 priorities each and every day, utilizing a systematic way of storing documents on your computer (like box.net)

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### Question - 61:

Was there a person in your career who really made a difference?

#### Ans:

If you can't think of one, you need to get a mentor QUICKLY! Mentors can come in the form of peers, family members, co-workers, management / leaders at a company and so on.

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### Question - 62:

What are you most proud of?

#### Ans:

You should be proud of all your achievements As Financial CFO! We just don't have time to hear them all as interviewers most likely. Focus on 1 really good achievement that showcases characteristics like the following: Integrity, competitiveness, resourcefulness, intelligence, persistence, and so forth.

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### Question - 63:

What do you like to do?



**Ans:**

Discuss your passions As Financial CFO. Ideally if it's work related that's fantastic! If not, talk about your academic / extracurricular passions and WHY you enjoy them. For example: I love playing sports because of the team work aspect - it's fun winning together! (This example shows you're a team player)

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**Question - 64:**

What negative thing would your last boss say about you?

**Ans:**

"He/She wouldn't say anything bad, but he/she may point out I could improve in a certain area, and I've taken steps to become better at those skills"

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**Question - 65:**

What three character traits would your friends use to describe you?

**Ans:**

Friends would typically use attributes like (assuming you have these): Trustworthy, honest, hardworking, friendly, courageous, nice, diligent, organized and so forth. Not saying you have all of these, but the best way for you to find out is to survey your friends by asking them what they consider your brand to be.

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**Question - 66:**

Do you think a leader should be feared or liked?

**Ans:**

Liked. You want to work harder for people that inspire and motivate you. Fear only lasts for so long.

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**Question - 67:**

What do you do in your spare time?

**Ans:**

If you want to show your fun side, discuss your extracurricular activities. If you want to show your ambition, discuss the work / school projects you do in your spare time.

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**Question - 68:**

If selected for this position As Financial CFO, can you describe your strategy for the first 90 days?

**Ans:**

This depends on the job role. Make sure you break it down into

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**Question - 69:**

What does "thinking outside the box" mean to you?

**Ans:**

It means not doing things exactly the same way as everyone else. You've got to challenge the status quo and bring something new to the business.

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**Question - 70:**

Can you perform Internet research? Please describe to me your steps in doing so?

**Ans:**

Internet research can entail Google searches, industry sites, news articles, social networks and company websites.

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**Question - 71:**

How does your present position differ from past ones?

**Ans:**

Describe the difference with regards to responsibilities, culture, team, career opportunity, and the work itself.

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**Question - 72:**

How do you decide what to delegate and to whom?

**Ans:**

Identify the strengths of your team members and their availability based on the priorities they have on their plate. From there, invest the tasks upon each member based on where you think you'll get the best return.

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**Question - 73:**

How did you become interested in this field/industry?

**Ans:**

Describe how you've come to develop a passion or interest in this industry and use variables like "culture, people, vision, career development, and the work itself" to define your choice

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**Question - 74:**

How much time do you need to join the organization As Financial CFO?

**Ans:**

You should be able to join it right away, barring plans you've already made (family travel, vacation, other obligations). The key is to simply be open in communication of what's already committed on your schedule. Most companies are accommodating. If they are not, weight the importance of joining that company vs. your plans.

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**Question - 75:**

How will you approach learning this "new" job As Financial CFO?

**Ans:**

Interview peers and leaders/managers, read industry news, practice the skill sets needed, absorb information on the job as much as possible.

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**Question - 76:**

Describe some problems you encountered in your most recent position As Financial CFO and how you resolved them?

**Ans:**

Discuss your work experiences. The key is to show you're calm under pressure and can handle sensitive situations with a clear train of thought.

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**Question - 77:**

Who has been an inspiration for you?

**Ans:**

Cite your role models (possible examples could be your parents, people successful in the industry, world leaders, etc)

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**Question - 78:**

Tell me about the last time you missed a goal or deadline?

**Ans:**

Unless you're a completely perfect person, chances are you've messed up before on a goal/deadline. If so, discuss how you fell short and what you would have done in retrospect to achieve it.

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**Question - 79:**

What was the biggest professional risk you have taken and what was the outcome?

**Ans:**

First discuss how you weighed the pros and cons of the risk and the results you'd believe you could achieve. Then discuss the action plan you put into place for it and outline that step by step. Then discuss the outcome and if it wasn't optimal talk about what you would do differently in hindsight.

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