

Xcel Energy Job Interview Questions And Answers



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Xcel Energy 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 In Xcel Energy, from anyone.

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Question - 2:

How do you think you might fit this position In Xcel Energy?

Ans:

An important part of research before the interview is what the company does and how the job role relates to that. This includes the company philosophy and working methods. Questions such as this seek to find out how a candidate will fit into the organisation In Xcel Energy. Answer positively; including practical examples of how you anticipate you would perform in the new role.

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Question - 3:

What are you looking for in a new position In Xcel Energy?

Ans:

I've been honing my skills In Xcel Energy for a few years now and, first and foremost, I'm looking for a position where I can continue to exercise those skills. Ideally the same things that this position has to offer. Be specific.

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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 In Xcel Energy. 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 motivates you?

Ans:

I've always been motivated by the challenge - in my last role, I was responsible for training our new recruits and having a 100% success rate in passing scores. I know that this job is very fast-paced and I'm more than up for the challenge. In fact, I thrive on it.

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Question - 6:

What's your dream job?

Ans:

Along similar lines, the interviewer wants to uncover whether this position In Xcel Energy is really in line with your ultimate career goals. While "an GGL star" might get you a few laughs, a better bet is to talk about your goals and ambitions-and why this job will get you closer to them.

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Question - 7:



How well do you know this industry?

Ans:

Two things businesses need to pay attention to in their industries are what their competition is doing and the customers. You may not always agree with your competitors but it is important to be aware of what changes they are making. Very well. I have been in the industry for over 6 years.

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Question - 8:

Why should we select you not others?

Ans:

Here you need to give strong reasons to your interviewer to select you not others. Sell yourself to your interviewer in interview in every possible best way. You may say like I think I am really qualified for the position. I am a hard worker and a fast learner, and though I may not have all of the qualifications that you need, I know I can learn the job and do it well."

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Question - 9:

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 - 10:

Describe to me the position In Xcel Energy you're applying for?

Ans:

This is a "homework" question, too, but it also gives some clues as to the perspective the person brings to the table. The best preparation you can do is to read the job description and repeat it to yourself in your own words so that you can do this smoothly at the interview.

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Question - 11:

What are three positive things your last boss would say about you?

Ans:

It's time to pull out your old performance appraisals and boss's quotes. This is a great way to brag about yourself through someone else's words: "My boss has told me that I am the best designer he has ever had. He knows he can rely on me, and he likes my sense of humor."

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Question - 12:

What are your salary expectations In Xcel Energy?

Ans:

This question is like a loaded gun, tricky and dangerous if you're not sure what you are doing. It's not uncommon for people to end up talking salary before really selling their skills, but knowledge is power as this is a negotiation after all. Again, this is an area where doing your research will be helpful as you will have an understanding of average salary.

One approach is asking the interviewer about the salary range, but to avoid the question entirely, you can respond that money isn't a key factor and you're goal is to advance in your career. However, if you have a minimum figure in mind and you believe you're able to get it, you may find it worth trying.

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Question - 13:

What do you think is your greatest weakness?

Ans:

Don't say anything that could eliminate you from consideration for the job. For instance, "I'm slow in adapting to change" is not a wise answer, since change is par for the course in most work environments. Avoid calling attention to any weakness that's one of the critical qualities the hiring manager is looking for. And don't try the old "I'm a workaholic," or "I'm a perfectionist."

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Question - 14:

What types of personalities do you work with best?

Ans:

In the past, I have found it difficult to work with others who see themselves as better than others, who can take criticism, and who refuse to work with others. I have found it challenging to work with them b/c I am a team oriented person who feels the importance of working together over the needs of the individual especially in a learning environment.

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Question - 15:

Where do you see yourself professionally five years from now In Xcel Energy?

**Ans:**

Demonstrate both loyalty and ambition in the answer to this question. After sharing your personal ambition, it may be a good time to ask the interviewer if your ambitions match those of the company.

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Question - 16:

How do you evaluate your ability to handle conflict?

Ans:

I pride myself on being a good problem solver. Through my previous job and management positions I have faced numerous conflicts in different situations, and my experiences have helped me to hone my issue resolution skills. I believe that it is important to get to and address the root of the issue, in a respectable manner.

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Question - 17:

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 - 18:

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 - 19:

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 - 20:

Tell me about a time when you had to give someone difficult feedback In Xcel Energy?

Ans:

By asking this question, your interviewer hopes to learn whether you can communicate effectively, address issues in the workplace and motivate others during difficult times. Giving negative feedback requires honesty, thoughtfulness and tact. Answering this question well can help show an interviewer that you would be a good fit for a managerial position or a position that involves working closely with others.

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Question - 21:

Did the salary we offer attract you to this job?

Ans:

The interviewer could be asking you this question for a number of reasons. Obviously, the salary is an important factor to your interest in this job, but it should not be the overriding reason for your interest. A good answer to this question is, "The salary was very attractive, but the job itself is what was most attractive to me."

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Question - 22:

What has disappointed you about a previous job?

Ans:

Again, this question could get you in trouble so tread carefully. Some good answers might be that your previous job didn't provide any room for growth, that you were laid off due to a mandatory reduction in staff, that they closed their office in your state and required you to relocate, etc. Make sure not to mention anything negative about the people you worked with, the company in general or the job itself.

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Question - 23:

Are you willing to work overtime or odd hours?

**Ans:**

Be completely honest. You don't want to lie to get the job if you're not going to work the hours required.

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Question - 24:

If you were hiring a person for this job In Xcel Energy, what would you look for?

Ans:

Discuss qualities you possess required to successfully complete the job duties.

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Question - 25:

How do you propose to compensate for your lack of experience?

Ans:

The first thing you should do is discuss experience you have the interviewer is unfamiliar with. Once that is detailed, tell the person conducting the interview that you are able to learn new tasks and information in a reasonable period of time and possess a strong work ethic. However, only state this if you can live up to these expectations.

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Question - 26:

Where do you see yourself in five years? Ten years?

Ans:

Bad Answer: A generic or uninspired answer. Also, answers that show that this career/company is just a temporary stop for them.

Good answer: One that shows the candidate has thought about this question, has plans, and that those plans align with the job and a career path that is possible in the company. You want to see that this candidate is a good long term investment.

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Question - 27:

What is your desired salary In Xcel Energy?

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 - 28:

Top 11 Questions to Verify Experience and Credentials In Xcel Energy:

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 - 29:

How much are you willing to sacrifice to be successful at work In Xcel Energy?

Ans:

With anything comes sacrifice. The questions is how much of it are you willing to sacrifice with regards to work life balance, stress, etc?

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Question - 30:

Your client is upset with you for a mistake you made, how do you react?

Ans:

Acknowledge their pain - empathize with them. Then apologize and offer a solution to fix the mistake.

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**Question - 31:**

If you felt like you were hitting the proverbial "wall" and getting burned out, what would you do to re-energize yourself?

Ans:

Take a break to rest. Work in smaller increments of time to increase focus with breaks in between. Delegate tasks to those that are willing to help.

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Question - 32:

Describe a time when you put your needs aside to help a co-worker understand a task. How did you assist them? What was the result?

Ans:

The key is to show that the mentoring of a co-worker was first a higher priority than the task you had at hand (remember, you want to show that you focus on highest priority tasks first). Then, describe in detail how you helped them not only complete the task but learn to do it on their own. You want to teach them HOW to fish and not to simply fish for them.

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Question - 33:

What are you passionate about?

Ans:

Ask yourself - what are your core passions that you wake up excited to act on each and every day? Ask yourself what makes you happy or drives you - is it helping others? Is it making money? Is it creating something? Is it about changing the world? Etc.

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Question - 34:

What did you major in and why?

Ans:

Tell them your major and the motivations behind why you chose it and how it's helped to prep you for this potential job.

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Question - 35:

How have you achieved your success?

Ans:

Discuss stories of how you've progressed over the years to achieve success. People relate best to stories.

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Question - 36:

Do you have the ability to articulate a vision and to get others involved to carry it out?

Ans:

If yes, then share an example of how you've done so at work or college. If not, then discuss how you would do so. Example: "I would first understand the goals of the staff members and then I would align those to the goals of the project / company. Then I would articulate the vision of that alignment and ask them to participate. From there, we would delegate tasks among the team and then follow up on a date and time to ensure follow through on the tasks. Lastly, we would review the results together."

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Question - 37:

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 - 38:

What are your thoughts on failure?

Ans:

Failure happens. It's a part of life. The key is understanding that you can't be perfect at everything and more importantly you're going to learn from failures to come out stronger.

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Question - 39:

Describe a time where you've failed and bounced back?

Ans:

Share a story to describe this. For example: "I accidentally made the mistake of telling a customer I could deliver on a solution set on a certain date and then later found out our business partner couldn't do it on that time. I learned that I shouldn't rush into important decisions and promises like this and that I should always check with my counterparts first before committing to a statement of work."



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Question - 40:

How articulate are you in expressing your ideas?

Ans:

One of the best ways to answer this question is clearly articulate three points that demonstrate how articulate you are (and in a sense show that in a live setting) - for example: "I would say I'm articulate because one, I typically gather my thoughts before speaking, two, I organize my thoughts well, and three I'm concise when making a point."

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Question - 41:

Have you ever been fired and if yes, why?

Ans:

Answer this as positively as possible and try to avoid disparaging the company you had previously worked for. The key is to accept the fact that yes, you were fired, but you've learned from the mistakes that got you there and you're better now because of it. If you haven't been fired, well, then this question's a piece of cake isn't it?

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Question - 42:

How important is a positive attitude to you?

Ans:

Incredibly important. I believe a positive attitude is the foundation of being successful - it's contagious in the workplace, with our customers, and ultimately it's the difference maker.

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Question - 43:

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 - 44:

Give me an example of when you competed hard and won?

Ans:

You can reference many different areas here when discussing a story of where you won in competition: Work experience (ideal), sports, clubs, classes, projects.

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Question - 45:

What's the least rewarding work you've ever done and why?

Ans:

Describe work you've done that you feel doesn't take advantage of your full potential. For example, "I once had to make paper copies for my job and I feel it didn't take full advantage of my skills. However, it did teach me to be humble in my work and to appreciate a good opportunity when it arose to use my skills"

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Question - 46:

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 In Xcel Energy and the reason it because I'm good at prioritizing my work emails."

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Question - 47:

What general trends do you see in our industry?

Ans:

Examine what's happened in the industry in the last 5 - 10 years and how it's evolved and then look at what both the company and analysts are saying about the future of that industry in which that company competes in. Read trade magazines / online sources in that industry as well to make sure you stay up to date on trends.

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Question - 48:

What were the responsibilities of your last position In Xcel Energy?

Ans:



If you want to show your ambition, you can discuss how you haven't reached all of your goals yet and in that sense aren't satisfied. However, if you want to discuss satisfaction from your job discuss an experience in which you achieved something.

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Question - 49:

Who was your favorite manager and why?

Ans:

Describe the attributes you liked about your favorite manager, typically attributes discussed are: Great at coaching, inspiring, motivating, empowering, trusting, delegating, leading, etc.

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Question - 50:

What do you think of your previous boss?

Ans:

Do not belittle or talk badly of your last boss - it will come off as being petty. Instead, talk about the positive lessons you were able to learn from your last boss.

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Question - 51:

What do you ultimately want to become?

Ans:

Do you want to be an entry level worker In Xcel Energy? Do you want to be a leader? Do you want to be an entrepreneur? Do you want to be a philanthropist? Do you want to be in middle management? Ask yourself these questions to figure it out.

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Question - 52:

What is your greatest achievement outside of work In Xcel Energy?

Ans:

This is a great opportunity for you to discuss how you've given back to the community, how you've achieved in a competitive extracurricular activity (think sports or clubs), how you've mentored others, and so forth.

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Question - 53:

Tell me one thing about yourself you wouldn't want me to know?

Ans:

Talk about a trait that you would consider a weakness. No need to talk about your deepest darkest secrets here.

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Question - 54:

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 - 55:

If I were to give you this salary you requested but let you write your job description for the next year, what would it say?

Ans:

It should say the same thing - after all - if you think this salary is fair then it should suit the responsibilities!

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Question - 56:

How would you go about establishing your credibility quickly In Xcel Energy with the team?

Ans:

Fully understand my responsibilities, work hard and exceed expectations, learn as much as possible, help others as much as possible, understand what my teammates' goals and needs are, be on time, and gain a mentor.

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Question - 57:

How did you find out about this job In Xcel Energy? What do you know about the job?

Ans:

Possible ways to find out about the job:

Online website listing, friend, professional referral, mentor, career fairs, networking events. You should know about the roles and responsibilities of the job and what



they're looking for. Make sure you read up on that online beforehand or ask the person that referred you.

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Question - 58:

How do you rate yourself in computer skills? Please describe the programs and software that you can use well?

Ans:

Ideally you want to be able to type quickly, have the ability to effectively use Microsoft Office, and more importantly be able to quickly adapt to computer / technology skills. More and more it's become an integral part of work. If the job doesn't require technology skills - then this question shouldn't be asked!

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Question - 59:

Do you work better on a team, with just one partner, or alone?

Ans:

Ideally you can handle all three well, but you may have a personal preference for one or a few. The key is to make sure you understand what the job is looking for and to pair your answer with that (assuming it's true)

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Question - 60:

How much time do you need to join the organization In Xcel Energy?

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 - 61:

What motivates you the most?

Ans:

Is it money? Is it career development? Is it recognition? Is it a sense of achievement? Is it to impress your peers? Is it for fame?

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Question - 62:

In what areas do you think you will need guidance?

Ans:

Think about what you need to learn going into the job. Skill sets, industry knowledge, relationship building, team dynamics. Which areas are ones you're lacking?

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Question - 63:

How do you define arrogance? Are you arrogant?

Ans:

Arrogance is having an attitude of superiority beyond reason. Confidence is believing in yourself without being cocky. You should not be arrogant.

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Question - 64:

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 - 65:

When was the last time something upset you at work? What did you do?

Ans:

Almost everyone has an emotional moment related to work at some point - you're not alone. The key is to learn why you reacted that way and to focus not on the problem but HOW to resolve it. Another key component is to be aware of your emotional response so that you can learn to control it in the future in a calm way.

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Question - 66:

How do you ensure all of your work gets accomplished in a productive manner?

Ans:

The key is to prioritize what's important in your work and to stay organized to accomplish the tasks. A strong work ethic also helps.



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Question - 67:

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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