20 Common Interview Questions for Actuaries

- Why did you apply for this job?
- Why our company, and not one of our competitors?
- Why do you think you can be a good actuary?
- What will motivate you the most in this job?
- How do you imagine a typical day in work?
- Where do you see yourself in five years time? Describe your career plan.
- Tell us your greatest strengths and weaknesses.
- Why did you leave your last job? Why do you plan to leave your present job.
- Why should we hire you, and not someone else?
- Describe a situation when you were under pressure in work.
- Describe a conflict you had with your colleague.
- Describe a situation when you went above and beyond with your service (for the customer, for the colleague).
- Describe a situation when you reached a goal and tell us how you achieved it.
- Describe a situation when you had to motivate someone in work (your colleague, your subordinate)
- Describe a situation when you did not agree with the opinion (or decision) of your superior, and knew that they were wrong. How did you handle that?
- Describe a situation when you faced a particularly demanding problem or challenge in your personal life. How did that affect you in your job?
- Describe a time when you struggled to communicate something to your boss, colleague, or to a customer. How did you manage to get your message over?
- Tell us what is the cumulative distribution function, and when do we use it in statistics.
- A device runs until either of two components fails, at which point the device stops running. The joint density function of the lifetimes of the two components, both measured in hours, is \( f(x,y) = \frac{x+y}{4} \) for \( 0 < x < 2 \) and \( 0 < y < 2 \). What is the probability that the device fails during its first three hours of operation?
- What does the degree of confidence assigned by a participant to the probability of failure relative to a specified success criterion that is developed by an actuarial model of a risk-management system depends on?