

The Strangest Questions Asked in an Interview:



- 1) **William Bolton - Culinary Guru / Executive Chef / Manager**
What is your Age?
- 2) **Mohamed Hamed**
After 50 take 10-15 years off your CV and after 65 take 20 off. Color your white hair dark and reference music and TV from your fake time period - at least get the job offer and when they ask for ID say oops.
- 3) **Ann Shannon - Hospitality Asset Management Professional- U.S. and International**
If you could be any kind of tree, what would it be and why?
- 4) **Noel Thompson, Jr. - Regional Sales Director | Senior Living / Real Estate / Construction | Servant Leader | Sales Team & Occupancy**
I paused, the interviewer said "mine is a monkey"... I paused again trying to hold back my laughter because I instantly thought about the animal planet videos of monkey slinging "stuff" at each other.
- 5) **Naved Noorani - Hospitality Executive | Strategic Thinker | Curator of Exceptional Experiences**
My dad spoke of this smart ass interviewer (on a panel interview) asking a candidate - "Do you want one difficult question or two simple"?

The young guy picked one, "one difficult Question". To which the guy asks "What came first, a chicken or the egg"?

Confidently the candidate replies, "The Chicken". Not giving up the interviewer says, "Why do you say that"?

The candidate replies, "I'm sorry, I picked only one difficult question".

He was selected for being able to think on his feet and stand up for himself.

6) Buddy Morin - V.P. Franchise Development - Ritual | The 30-Minute Gym Group

I was once asked "how had my career been going so far?" Except I was only 21 years old!

So, I proceeded to tell the HR Director that for the past 7-8 years, I only worked about 4 months a year, usually in the summer time when the sun was warm, saved my money, and had direct management over 468 people of varying ages, genders, races, profiles, and circumstances.

PS.: I prioritized Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) even back then!

"Wow, that very impressive, Buddy! ... What kind of start-up did you create over those years?"

I said I simply mowed grass at the parish's cemetery.....True story.

7) Alan Jacobs - General Manager/Executive Committee Member at Shanqin Bay Golf Club

Was interviewing for job in New England and the first question was "Which is your favorite football team?"

Being from New York; I knew this was a dangerous and/or loaded question. If I said Patriots they would know I am more likely a liar or a kiss up. If I said Giants or Jets; I would not likely be appreciated or possibly not a welcomed person.

My quick reply was Detroit Lions as no one could get angry about that...except me. Needless to say, I did get the job offer; but turned it down for other reasons.

8) ROCCO BOVA - Managing Director, Grupo Hotelero 1800 Chief Creative Officer & Founder at My Humble House.

"We would like to ask you for your hand" (instead of we would like to offer you the job).

It was kind of surprising, embarrassing and amazing at the same time.

I said "yes" 😊 and actually worked out to be my longest stint.

9) Mike Daddona - Senior Vice President Operations Northeast

I was about 24 interviewing for my first GM position with a new company. The person conducting the interview was the vice president of operations. He asked me. "What makes you think you can be a good GM?"

I thought about that question, and I replied, I have worked for so many bad GMs that I know what I'm not supposed to do! He stood up, extended a firm handshake, and said you're hired!

10) **Emanuel Roeseler - General Manager at Vaya Beach Resort**

Big developer whom I knew for years and applied to become one of his GM told me to the face. „You are too old for my hotels. I need 29-32 years old GM. They have left adrenaline and right motivation."

And I ask what they have in the middle?

11) **Michael Shindler - President at Four Corners Advisors, Inc.**

In the pre-computer days, I was once asked if I drafted documents with a pen or a pencil.

12) **Konstantin Andonov's question:**

Big hotel chain asked me: "Do you pee during shower?"

Apparently there have been different categories:

Type I: The Pigs ("I do it all the time")

Type II: The Liars ("I've done it, but, like, it's not something I do")

Type III: The Publicity Whores ("Only at the gym, baby")

**the right answer was...."It depends on whom I am with!"