

## Off the Wall Interview Questions

Picture yourself in this scene: You're in a job interview. Everything is going better than you imagined it could. You look professional and fabulous. You are totally prepared. You are on a roll. You're nailing every interview question. You feel wonderful rapport with your interviewer. Suddenly out of the blue she asks you...

"Imagine you could trade places with anyone for just a week. The person could be famous or not famous living or from history real or fictional. With whom would you trade places?"

It's all you can do to keep your jaw from dropping. You're stunned. You feel your mouth drying up and sweat forming on your forehead. Your head is spinning and your mind is a blank. You're thinking why in the world is he/she asking me this absurd question?

Welcome to the world of the off-the-wall interview question — weird wacky gimmicky and off-beat "wild card" questions that seem to have nothing to do with your ability to handle a job. If they're irrelevant to job performance why do employers ask them?

They want to see how well you can think on your feet. They want to see if you'll get rattled. They may want to test your creativity or sense of humor. They want to challenge you. Employers who ask these goofy questions no doubt may feel the questions *do* relate to job performance. In creating stress by asking you a weird question the interviewer may be testing how well you'll respond to the stress of the workplace.

1. If you could have dinner with anyone from history, who would it be, and why?
2. What did you want to be when you were 10 years old?
3. What would I find in your refrigerator?
4. List 3 words that describe your character.
5. List 3 positive character traits you DON'T have.
6. Why is a tennis ball fuzzy?
7. If Hollywood made a movie about your life, whom would you like to see play the lead role as you?
8. If you could be a superhero, what would you want your superpowers to be?
9. If someone wrote a biography about you, what do you think the title should be?

10. If you had to be shipwrecked on a deserted island, but all your human needs — such as food and water — were taken care of, what two items would you want to have with you?
11. If you had six months with no obligations or financial constraints, what would you do with the time?
12. If you could be any animal which would you be and why?
13. If you won \$20 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?
14. If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not famous, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would you trade?
15. Do you believe in Bigfoot (or Bigfeet)?
16. What is the last gift you gave someone?
17. Do you believe in intelligent life in outer space?
18. Where would you go in a time machine?
19. What is your favorite quote?
20. If you were able to get rid of one state in the U.S. which would it be and why?
21. A penguin walks through the door right now and is wearing a sombrero. What does he say and why is he here?
22. I'm going on vacation soon but don't where I should go. Where would you recommend?
23. Pick two celebrities for you parents
24. If your cellphone were to ring LOUDLY right now, what/how would you explain the situation to me?