Questions job interviewers are asking most

Hot on the trail of a new job? A recent survey of more 2,000 recruiters and hiring managers across a broad range of industries turned up a list of "most frequently asked" job-interview questions.

You might want to distill some cogent responses in advance.

"Although an effective résumé is usually successful in getting interviews, many job-seekers hit a brick wall when it comes to offering meaningful responses during the interview," says Brad Fredericks, a spokesman for ResumeDoctor.com, of South Burlington, Vt., which conducted the survey. "'Tell me about yourself' is not the cue to begin your life story."

Recruiters and hiring managers frequently said that questions are often designed to probe subjective aspects of a job candidate, ranging from work ethic to preferred management styles and assorted "soft skills."

The Top 15 interview topics:

- Describe your ideal job and/or boss.
- Why are you job hunting/leaving your current job?
- What unique experience or qualifications separate you from other candidates?
- Tell me about yourself.
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- Describe some of your most important career accomplishments.
- What are your short-term/long-term goals?
- Describe a time when you were faced with a challenging situation and how you handled it.
- What are your salary requirements?
- Why are you interested in this position/our company?
- What would a former boss/colleague say about you?
- What are the best and worst aspects of your last job?
- What do you know about our company?
- What motivates you? How do you motivate others?
- Are you willing to relocate?

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Plus Interviewers either ask you "WHAT Questions do you have?" or they will simply expect you to have Questions.

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