TOP 5 MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Tell me about yourself
2. What are your major strengths/weaknesses?
3. Where do you see yourself in 5 years from now (short/long term career goals question)?
4. Why are you interested in our organization/this role specifically?
5. What kind of supervisor do you work best for? What is your leadership style (if it is a leadership position or a position which requires leadership skills)?

EXAMPLES OF QUANTITATIVE QUESTIONS

• What is arbitrage?
• What is put-call parity?
• How would you define risk in mathematical terms?
• What is Jensen’s inequality? Provide an example of its application to finance.
• Does the duration of a bond always increase when term to maturity increases?
• What do you understand by the term “complete markets?”

EDUCATION

• Why did you choose to pursue a MS in Mathematical Finance?
• Why did you choose to concentrate in ______________?
• What subjects do you enjoy the most in school? The least? Why?
• What activities during your Mathematical Finance Program do/did you enjoy most? What activities are the most challenging for you?
• What leadership positions have you held?

WORK EXPERIENCE

• Why do you start a career as a ________ / a career in ________?
• What were your major achievements in each of your past jobs?
• What were your major learnings in each of your past jobs?
• What functions did you/do you enjoy doing the most?
• What did you/do you like about your boss? Dislike?
• What was the reason for your job/industry change from _____________ to ______________?
• Which job did you enjoy the most? Why?
• Which job did you enjoy the least? Why?
CAREER GOALS

- Why do you want to join our organization? What do you like about us?
- What attracts you to this industry?
- Why are you interested in this specific position?
- Why do you think you are qualified for this position?
- Why should we hire you?
- What are your overall career goals?
- What do you want to be doing five years from now?
- What other types of jobs are you considering? Companies?
- When will you be ready to begin work?
- How do you feel about relocating, traveling, working overtime, and spending weekends in the office?

PERSONALITY & OTHER CONCERNS

- What do you think you still would need to learn to be successful in this job?
- What causes you to lose your temper?
- How well do you work under pressure? In meeting deadlines?
- What do you do in your spare time? Any hobbies?
- What types of books do you read?
- What kind of supervisor do you work best for? Provide examples.
- What types of people do you prefer working with?
- What motivates/demotivates you?
- How ________________ (creative, analytical, tactful, etc.) are you?
- What else do you want us to know what is not written on your resume?
- I found your LinkedIn profile to be quite interesting. Tell me, what did you think of my LinkedIn profile?

WHAT THE INTERVIEWER WANTS TO KNOW, EVEN IF THEY DO NOT ASK DIRECTLY...

The following are questions that interviewers may not pose, but do consider. It is important that you relay your interest in the position and the company with all of your answers so that the below questions are answered in a positive manner, without needing to be verbalized.

- Why should I hire you?
- What do you really want?
- What can you really do for me? (i.e. how will you make my job easier?)
- What are your weaknesses?
- What is difficult for you?