# Five Interview Stories Finder

Find five real situations you could develop into interview answers.

Save a working copy. Open it in a PDF app that supports forms, fill it in, save, then reopen to check your answers. Use short phrases that fit the visible boxes; shorten an entry if a box is full.

## Start with real moments

Use short notes from work, projects, volunteering or everyday responsibilities. Allow about 15 minutes for a first search. These prompts help you remember; they are not required interview categories. A small, specific contribution counts.

**Fictional example**

Situation: Two colleagues used different file versions. My action: Checked the dates and set up one shared folder. Result: The team used the same current file. Possible question: Tell me about a problem you solved. This is a story starting point, not a prepared answer.

## 1. A problem you worked through

**Situation or trigger**

**What you did**

**Result or learning**

**A question this might answer**

## 2. Working with someone else

**Situation or trigger**

**What you did**

**Result or learning**

**A question this might answer**

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## Look beyond the obvious successes

For responsibility, think of something you followed through on; managing people is not required. For change, recall a new process, tool or plan you adapted to. Name your own part and keep team results in context.

### 3. Something you took responsibility for

**Situation or trigger**

**What you did**

**Result or learning**

**A question this might answer**

### 4. A change you responded to

**Situation or trigger**

**What you did**

**Result or learning**

**A question this might answer**

Still searching? When did you spot an error, explain a confusing detail, help a handover or adjust after feedback? Check a calendar or an old project note. Mark a gap as a search task rather than inventing a story; you can return later.

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## Choose one to develop next

### 5. A mistake or a useful lesson

Choose something you can discuss responsibly. What did you change afterward? Avoid confidential details and do not claim a successful outcome if the useful result was learning.

**Situation or trigger**

**What you did**

**Result or learning**

**A question this might answer**

**First story to develop: number and why**

**One detail to check or recover**

- [ ] My selected story is real and my own part is clear.
- [ ] It could answer the question I noted.
- [ ] I have found a situation; I still need to shape and practice the answer.

**Next step and time**

Spend a few minutes telling your chosen story aloud: context, your action, result or learning. Note one gap to resolve.

**From story ideas to usable answers**

If you have found useful situations, keep these notes as starting points. Your next task may be to shape and practice an answer for a particular question. The Interview Story Studio is intended for that broader interview preparation. If you want to continue, look for the toolkit at www.directionbychoice.com.