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Tips & Tricks to ace your next interview

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Navigating Dos & Don’ts

Steer clear of the Don'ts:

- Limited knowledge about the company
- Lack of motivation
- Unprofessional behavior
- Low energy
- No insightful questions asked
- Salary mismatch
- Lack of relevant skills
- Inconsistent or unclear responses

Focus on the power of the Dos

Prepare your interview effectively to leave **lasting** impressions with **maximum** impact

Tell Me About Yourself: Mastering your elevator pitch

*I am 25 years old, born and raised in Belgium. I am completing my **Master's in IT** with a **specialization** in Business Intelligence **in June**, and I have just returned from an **exchange semester** in Portugal, which was really a wonderful **international experience** for me. I am **passionate about** bridging the worlds of IT and business, which led me to pursue studies in both fields.*

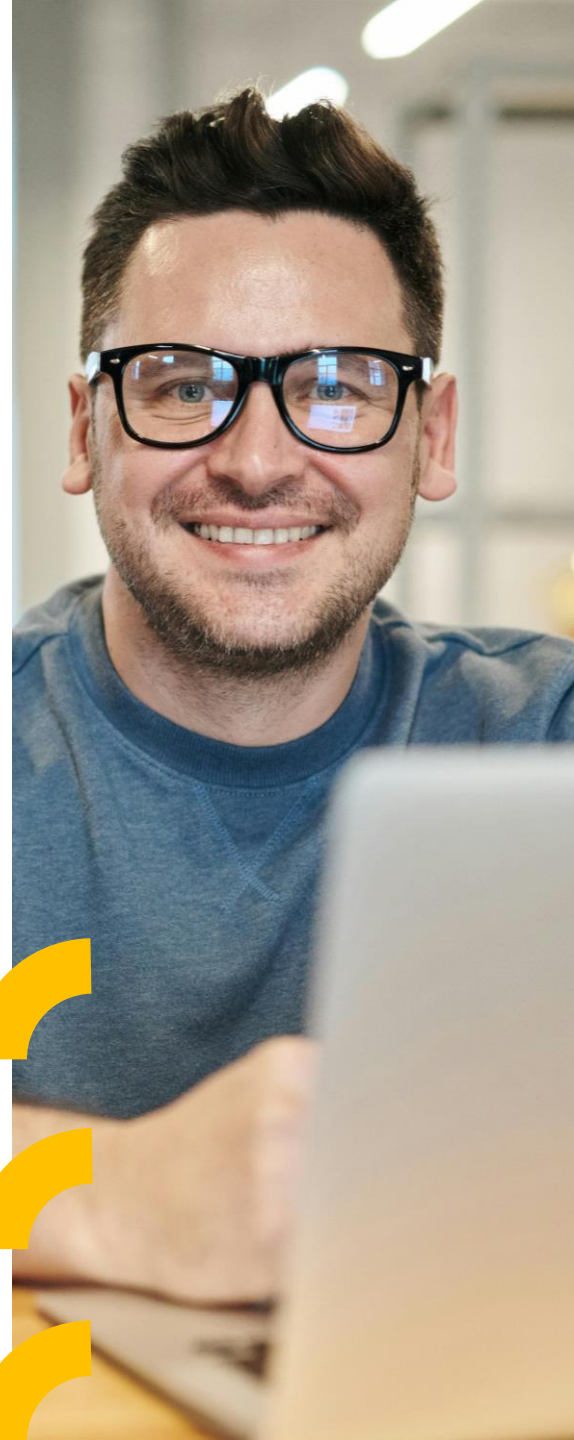
*With my background in Informatics and Business, I completed a **6-month long internship** as a junior developer at the Brussels FinTech Group, working on their core application. I would like to continue **driving my career** in this direction and your role of .Net Developer strongly **matches with my aspirations.***

*I am always **curious to learn** new technologies and stay updated on the latest trends, and since your company Blue Skies is a**t the forefront of the industry**, I am very keen on becoming **part of it**.*

*In my free time I spend a lot of time **volunteering** with local associations and am an **avid runner**. I am thankful for this opportunity to interview with you today and **look forward** to our conversation!*

Going Beyond the Surface: Effective Company Research

- Go beyond the About Us page
- Read the latest company reports
- Read recent news and press releases
- Check for awards and recognitions
- Review the company’s social media
- Check for the latest interviews / jobinars
- Familiarise yourself with the industry and the latest trends
- Check the company's values
- Read up on the company's competitors
- Explore the company's products or services
- Try to understand recent challenges



On the Interview Trail: Anticipating Common Questions

Your leadership potential

Can you share an example of a leadership role you have taken on?

Tell me about a situation where you had to lead and make decisions under pressure.

Your achievements

What would you consider your most significant achievement?

Can you provide an example of a project where you exceeded expectations and achieved notable success?

Ability to tackle challenges

Can you discuss a project that did not go as planned? What steps did you take to address the challenges?

Describe a situation where you faced a setback or failure. How did you handle it, and what did you learn?

Your reaction to feedback

How do you handle receiving constructive feedback, and what steps do you take to address your weaknesses?

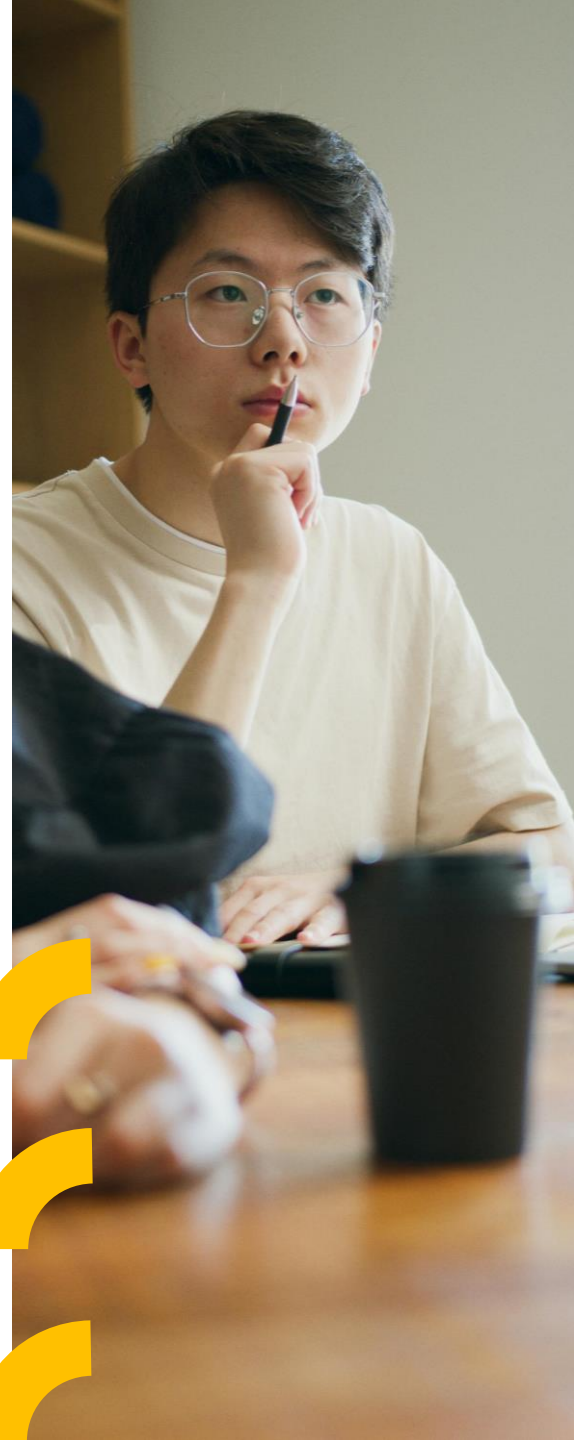
Beyond Words: Attitude's Silent Power

- Avoid overplay, ego, arrogance, and an indifferent approach
- Don’t attempt to oversell oneself beyond reality
- Use language that is easily understood by the interviewer
- Avoid appearing too eager and opt for a balanced eagerness approach
- Opt for authentic engagement focusing on building genuine connections
- Showcase sincere interest in the interviewer's insights and experiences
- Change of mindset: adopt a win-win, balanced attitude

Mastering the Art of Engagement

Examples of impactful questions to ask in an interview

- Why do you like working there personally?
- How is the onboarding process like? What kind of training will I receive?
- From your experience, what kind of candidate would succeed in such a role? Both soft and hard skills that would make a difference?
- What kind of career development could I aspire to?
- Could you give an example of a project I will be working on?



The Unique Story Behind Every CV

Be authentic, personal & humble

Connect the company to your future vision

Craft your personal story as a compelling narrative

Demonstrate a forward-looking approach

It's all about the **holistic blend**:
an interplay of your approach, values, mindset, diverse experiences, practical skills, and aspirations

Your attitude in an interview speaks way louder than your CV about your potential for success

A good story starts with a **good CV**