

Mock Interview Reflection

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For my mock interview practice, I chose the technology industry and focused on the role of Tech Project Manager. I selected this role because it combines technology with leadership, organization, and teamwork. The interview centered on leadership questions, which makes sense for a project management role since a project manager must guide a team, keep people on track, and make decisions under pressure. I was asked questions such as who I have coached or mentored, a time I led by example, when I delegated effectively, a time I took the lead on a difficult project, and what qualities make a good leader. Most of these were behavioral questions that asked me to describe real situations from my own experience, along with a few questions about my views on leadership.

Two things I did well during the mock interview were maintaining eye contact and speaking clearly. I kept my focus on the camera throughout the interview, which helped me appear engaged and confident instead of distracted. I also made sure my words were clear and easy to follow. These skills are especially important for a Tech Project Manager, who must communicate with team members, lead meetings, and explain plans and updates to others. The most challenging part for me was answering the behavioral questions without hesitating. Questions like "When have you delegated effectively?" and "Who have you coached or mentored?" required me to think of specific examples quickly, and that was not always easy to do in the moment.

The feedback I received from Big Interview pointed out two things: I paused a few times while speaking, and some of my answers were short, lasting under 30 seconds. When I reviewed my recording, I could see that the pauses usually happened when I was trying to think of an example or decide how to finish my answer. I also

realized that my shorter answers did not include enough detail to fully show my experience or explain the results of my actions. Even so, I noticed that my eye contact and clear speech helped me come across as professional and attentive. Overall, I felt I presented myself well, but this feedback showed me that I need to be better prepared, so my answers flow more smoothly and give the interviewer a complete picture.

Before a real interview, I want to reduce my pauses and give more developed answers. One strategy I plan to use is the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result), which gives me a clear structure for behavioral questions and makes sure I include enough detail, especially about the actions I took and the results that followed. I also want to prepare a few leadership examples ahead of time, such as my experience managing multiple teams across different projects, so I'm not searching for ideas during the interview. That experience would fit well with questions about delegating effectively, leading a difficult project, or leading an important meeting. Practicing my answers out loud and timing them will help me aim for responses closer to one or two minutes. At the same time, I want to keep building on my strengths by continuing to maintain eye contact and speak clearly.

This practice helped me prepare for the hiring process by showing me what employers are asking now, and how I come across when answering. I realized how many interview questions focus on past experiences and how important it is to have examples ready. Reviewing my own recording was useful because it helped me recognize both my strengths and the habits I need to work on. I feel more confident going into future interviews because I know what I already do well and what I need to keep practicing.