



1. If anything was possible, what would your dream job be, and why?

Ever since I was a kid, my dream job was to become a doctor. I was passionate about helping people who are in need of medical assistance. Now, as an adult, I would've loved to study and explore the never-ending wonders and mysteries of the human body. I've heard of situations where patients weren't provided with the healthcare that they needed due to a scarcity of doctors with specific specializations. If anything was possible, I would've studied to become a doctor in one of the specializations that are in high demand, especially in my country. Unfortunately, I was faced with the reality of my family's financial situation at the time, so I had to choose a different profession that would let me graduate and land a job as soon as possible. In my high school years, however, we had a programming subject that ignited my interest. I decided to pursue a technology-related course during my college years, and I don't regret it, even now. Although I wasn't able to pursue my dream job, I still am happy and content with the course that I pursued, and the opportunities I took after I graduated.

2. Have you ever experienced a stressful situation in your past workplace (college if fresh graduate), what was it and how did you overcome it?

Yes, I've encountered numerous stressful situations in my past workplace. One of those situations was when we were getting ready to present a web application (*which we call a "Product" in the industry that I worked in*) to a client. On the day of the presentation, we were testing the product to make sure that the features work as expected. However, there were issues that emerged during the product testing, which made the rest of the team worried, and a bit frantic. Thankfully, we were able to find an alternative and successfully delivered the presentation to the client afterwards. The lack of preparedness for those kinds of situations was not caused by complacency. In fact, that stressful situation could've been prevented if the team had been communicating effectively; including myself. We were able to overcome the situation by taking individual initiative and making sure that everything's being communicated clearly. Thanks to that situation, we were able to outline an emergency plan for our client presentations after that.

3. In your previous position, what task did you find most challenging and why? What task did you enjoy most and why?

Back then, I found it most challenging to prepare for a specific certification that was required and sponsored by a client. I had to upskill and acquire a total of three certifications, two of which were the pre-requisites of another one, in a span of six to nine months. After I obtained the pre-requisite certifications, I was able to practice my skills and had feedback sessions with my mentors, which was undeniably the most enjoyable task that I did in my previous position. I was able to explore different technologies, and I had the opportunity to expand my network. I eventually passed my certification and used that as an opportunity to share my knowledge with a lot of people.



4. How would your past colleagues or managers describe your work ethic?

My past colleagues or managers would describe me as organized and thorough. It's not only limited to how I organize files and documents, but also to how I organize and plan out my workloads. I complete as much work as I can as soon as possible. I also make sure that every process is carried out efficiently and effectively. I do admit that I would sometimes get too focused on completing a specific task, that I would avoid breaks just to complete it as soon as possible. In the course of my training, however, I've been making sure to rest as much as I can especially whenever my body gives me signs to take a break (eyes are straining, a headache might occur, starting to feel tired). Aside from the traits that I mentioned, I think my past colleagues would also describe me as communicative and approachable. I always make sure that my tasks are carried out according to what was expected, and I would also make suggestions when needed.

5. What personal or professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

I am most proud of passing the Authorized AWS (*Amazon Web Services*) Instructor Certification Exam. As I was preparing for the said certification, I've met and worked with my wonderful mentors who made sure that not only do I pass but also continue to be inspired and passionate in what I do. In my journey of completing the said certification, I was able to complete 2 certifications as well. Because of these accomplishments, I was able to gain more confidence in public speaking and conversing with non-native English speakers. The certification requires me to upskill my knowledge in Cloud Computing, so that I may be able to become a certified instructor in teaching related topics. I eventually decided to teach in a university as well, because I have experienced first-hand the massive gap between industry and academe, which has made it difficult for fresh graduates in IT-related courses to land a job in the industry landscape of the country. This accomplishment also gave me a confidence boost on my flexibility skills, as I had to upskill as soon as I was tasked to complete these certifications within the limited timeframe.