



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

If I had the freedom and the privilege to choose what my dream job would be, I would probably be a Registered Medical Technologist today. Growing up, I wanted various professions. There were moments I thought of becoming a Lawyer, a Doctor, and a Flight Attendant. But my heart keeps coming back to the idea of me becoming a Medical Technologist.

I was exposed to the hospital environment—the clean white tiles, plain white or sky-blue walls, and the unique scent of a hospital room. I am all too familiar with it. I was a sickly child; I always went to my pediatrician to check if there's something wrong with my health. I was first fascinated by how doctors work until I saw how medical technologists do their job. I used to be excited once they were going to their usual tasks for their patients, and it sparked my curiosity about the appearance of their laboratory. What equipment do they use, and what are the steps to use it properly? I have a lot of questions regarding how they can conclude that their patient has that specific illness through using their equipment.

I am also fascinated with learning science and seeing videos online of students who took healthcare professions. I really wanted to experience what they were trying to do. But I believe life has a better plan and opportunities ahead of me, so I took a different route and chose the business field than the medical field.

Even though I wasn't able to achieve my dream profession, I alternatively joined a first aid team during high school, and that somewhat cured my thoughts of not achieving my dream job. I am contented because I was able to somehow become a part of a team where they handle medical tasks. But that doesn't mean that I am sad and regretful that I was not able to pursue my dream job. I learned to love the path I took, and just like people, dreams can change. I am grateful for the path I chose, and I learned to love the uncertainty of what I am becoming today.



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?

I believe everyone experiences stressful moments in their life a lot of times, and I am not an exception. During my college years, I had a lot of stressful moments and sometimes I wondered how I was able to conquer them. During my senior year, I was a club officer who held two different departments all at once. And senior year is one of the busiest years of a student because of our feasibility study and internship program papers and preparation. I was not only a graduating student at that time, but I was also a leader.

Having multiple responsibilities while being a student was challenging, considering that I must stay flexible, efficiently manage my time, and give good performance to my academic responsibilities and leadership tasks. There was once a time when I had to prepare for an upcoming big event of our club, while at the same time, I also did my academic responsibilities, especially our feasibility study. I had a hard time managing my time because our feasibility study was time-demanding and my departments that I headed were also physically and time-demanding because we were the pioneers in preparing our event. I headed logistics and program departments, which needed constant participation. I take full responsibility and accountability for everything that is happening within my department. The success of our event relies on how well I was able to execute the event plan.

And another agenda was added to my tasks; I had to prepare my papers and my on-the-job internship program, which was also time-consuming because I had to find firms or companies that would accept my offer of becoming their intern.

Our feasibility study, our big event, and my internship program were successful despite how near their deadlines were to each other, and my presence is very crucial to each of the tasks. With the help of my friends and committees, I was able to manage my time by scheduling each of them depending on my availability, how important the task is, their deadlines, and the commitment and diligence in doing tasks efficiently.

I learned that being flexible and having the capability to handle various tasks, whether they are easy, manageable, or difficult, is not enough for you to provide an efficient performance. You must practice managing your time efficiently so you will not miss any tasks and have enough time catering to every task. Having resilience and practicing collaboration and teamwork towards others will help you succeed and achieve greater things.



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

Since I do not have work experience, I will just share the most challenging task and the task I enjoyed the most during my internship program. Our internship program was 3 months long, doing tasks and gaining exposure to the world we will enter once we graduate. Those months landed in the most challenging phase for accountants, which they called "tax season." There were multiple deadlines, compliances, and responsibilities that needed action as quickly as possible.

April is the main and heaviest month for accountants because it is the deadline for the income tax return. The firm office was very quiet. Only the sounds of keyboards and printers can be heard because everyone is busy catching up with the deadline. My supervisors were giving me crucial and heavy tasks during the season. During the final day of the deadline, I told them calmly, "I can feel the pressure right now," with a smile on my face. My supervisors laughed because I only felt pressured during the last day. After that, we got back to work, and suddenly, some news came up that the deadline was extended to next month. Everyone was happily cheering, and the office became noisy, full of laughs and small talk.

Though it was nice that it got extended, there were 2 upcoming deadlines for the next month because of that extension. It was challenging considering that I did not have my own PC during those times; I worked using my personal laptop, and it could not handle the files and applications, so it gradually became laggy to use.

I was not challenged by using software, but I was challenged because of how heavy and critical the workload was. Handling sensitive data, entering data into the software, and ensuring that those are accurate and the format is correct were the challenging parts, and especially the situation was very stressful because of the deadline.

Even though I was challenged, I really enjoyed doing my routine tasks, such as encoding purchases to Excel, encoding amounts to multiple applications and software, and doing administrative tasks. I really find tasks that have steps and need attention to detail enjoyable for the reason that my mind is purely focused on that task. I could perhaps say that I found joy around the eye of the storm.



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

During our internship, our supervisors will evaluate our performance by the end of our internship program. My supervisor's evaluation about my performance is that I can work with no supervision needed and I always ask questions if I need clarification for my task. She wrote that I was responsible and had the initiative to finish my task efficiently. The same comment I received from our club president, he likes my work ethics and always giving me gratitude whenever I accomplish my tasks.

From my friends' perspective, I am someone who finishes my task efficiently, someone who is detail-oriented and has an eye to flaws whenever doing tasks. Someone who makes sure that her tasks are correct and is open to being taught ways to improve her performance. Someone who is eager to learn in order for her to grow. One of my friends told me that I am one of the best at doing administrative tasks. The reason she told me is that I am always committed to giving my best whenever I receive tasks and responsibilities.

When I had my proper farewell to my committees in our club, they gave me farewell letters, telling me how grateful they were because they learned a lot during my leadership. That they love how responsible I am, and they saw how much I love to do my responsibilities in our club. They thanked me for being understanding, compassionate, and a teacher to them. They thanked me because I showed commitment, leadership, and love to the responsibilities I held.

Despite their descriptions towards me, I always keep a thought in my mind that I am not all-knowing, I will make mistakes because it is inevitable and I am only a human. I still have a lot of things to learn, especially in the professional world, but I will always bring the knowledge and learnings that I obtained.

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

My personal achievement that I am proud of is that I finished college. It was a tough 4 years for me and full of challenges and situations that made me think that I should give up, but I always told myself that I would not be able to learn and grow if I only experienced positive things in my life. I instilled a concept in my mind that the challenges I am experiencing will give me a lesson to overcome bigger challenges on my journey.

I gained various experiences that made me who I am today. College really trained me to become a better person. Without me studying for a bachelor's degree, I would not gain experiences that improved my skills, acknowledge my weaknesses, and discover myself. I learned that success is on the other side of fear, so I had to risk and move outside my comfort zone to the person who I want to become. I am grateful and proud that I conquered the biggest dream and one of the greatest challenges in my life. And because of this accomplishment, I agree with the statement that, "The only way out is to get through".



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