

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1100 How to Score at the Job Fair – Part 1

If you're looking for work, or looking to offer work, we're into your game today. I'm Jerry Roberts and that's coming next, on The Extra Point.

Friday, the Department of Labor is putting on a job fair at the RIHGA Royal Laguna Guam Resort, formerly the Sheraton. It's an all-day event, doors open at 9:00 a.m.

I've heard there are some 60 employers involved, and the number of jobs that could be available are said to be as high as 1,000.

That's what I've seen in the media. Whether it's 1,000 or whatever it is, as the man said, you only need one.

What can you expect? I would think that any employer who is serious about hiring the best possible candidates will have senior HR team members there to ask and answer questions.

Don't go crazy with a resume. If you have one and it hasn't been updated in a while, or you need one, get that taken care of now. Make sure it's complete, focusing on your performance and achievements.

Ask this question of yourself: "If I was reading this resume, would it make me want to schedule this person for an interview?" Hand it off to a few friends and get their opinions. Rewrite it if you need to.

Make at least 20 copies. You may not give out that many. If you don't, knock on doors of other companies next week. Getting a full-time job is a full-time job. Don't forget that.

So, what kinds of questions might you hear? I can't guarantee you'll hear all of these, but chances are good you'll get most of them, or some variation thereof.

1. "What career accomplishment makes you

most proud? Have a couple of them."

Sometimes the next two come together:

2. "Why do you want to work here?"
3. "What made you apply for this position?"

I might answer with a question, "Is yours a challenging place to work?" They'll say it is, and then you can add, "Well, that's good, I'm looking for a challenge."

The next one goes to attitude:

4. "Why do you feel you can be successful in this position?" Or...

5. "What previous successes have you had in this type of work?" Be able to answer those.

Somebody may ask you:

6. "Tell me about a difficult work situation, and how did you overcome it?" Again, this is about performance.

How will you respond when the interviewer says:

7. "This is a fast-paced, high-volume workplace. How do you feel about handling a heavy workload?" The wrong question to ask at that point is, "how heavy?" I'd say, "Hey, I look to put in a full day's work every day."

What if they ask:

8. "Why did you leave your last employer?" Be honest. Just give facts.

Sometimes they want to talk about weaknesses.

9. "What is your greatest weakness?" They should abolish the question. I like it when the response is, "I choose to strengthen strengths, rather than worry about weaknesses. After I'm here, if you spot something, we'll work on it. How's that?" (Con't.)

You might hear:

10. "What are your long-term career goals?"

11. "How would your previous coworkers describe you?"

Now, what if you've never worked before and this will be your first job?

Be confident. Make good eye contact and have decent posture. Look the interviewer straight on, tell them this will be your first job, and you'll work hard to make them glad they hired you.

If you stay all day and see as many employers as possible, and don't lose confidence or your smile...I think you'll end up with more than one job offer.

Tomorrow, the kinds of questions job seekers should think of asking interviewers. Yep, it's legal to do that.

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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