

YOU'RE MORE NORMAL THAN YOU THINK: REAL LIFE INTERVIEW BLOOPERS

A survey of top Personnel Executives of 100 major American corporations uncovered these stories of unusual behavior by job applicants. Thirty-four lowlights:

1. Said he was so well qualified (that) if he didn't get the job, it would prove that the company's management was incompetent.

2. Stretched out on the floor to fill out the job application.

3. Brought her large dog to the interview.

4. Chewed bubble gum and constantly blew bubbles.

5. Kept giggling through serious interview.



6. She wore a Walkman - said she could listen to me and the music at the same time.

7. Balding candidate abruptly excused himself. Returned to office a few minutes later, wearing a hairpiece.

8. Without saying a word, candidate stood up and walked out during the middle of the interview.

9. Asked to see interviewer's resume to see if the personnel executive was qualified to judge the candidate.

10. Announced she hadn't had lunch: Proceeded to eat a hamburger and french fries in the interviewer's office.

11. Pulled out a Polaroid camera and snapped a flash picture of me. Said he collected photos of everyone who interviewed him.

12. Man wore jogging suit to interview for position as financial vice president.

13. Said if he were hired, he would demonstrate his loyalty by having the corporate logo tattooed on his forearm.

14. Interrupted to phone his therapist for advice on answering specific interview questions.

15. Wouldn't get out of the chair until I would hire him. I had to call the police.



16. When asked about his hobbies, he stood up & started tap dancing around my office.

17. Had a little pinball game and challenged me to play with him.

18. Bounced up and down on my carpet and told me I must be highly regarded by the company because I was given such a thick carpet.

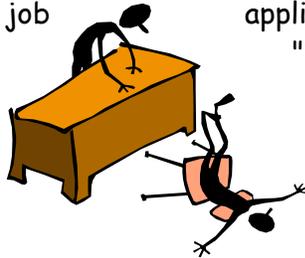
19. Applicant challenged interviewer to arm wrestle.

20. Took a brush out of my purse, brushed his hair, and left.



21. Candidate asked me if I would put on a suit jacket to insure that the offer was formal. Said he wasn't interested because the position paid too much.
22. While I was on a long-distance phone call, the applicant took out a copy of Penthouse and looked through the photos, stopping longest at the centerfold.
23. During the interview, an alarm clock went off from inside the candidate's brief case. He took it out, shut it off, apologized, and said he had to leave for another interview.

24. A telephone call came in for the job the conversation went like this: What's the salary?" I said, "I conducting the interview any as long as you'll pay me more." out there was no other job higher offer.



applicant. It was from his wife. His side of "Which company? When do I start? assume you're not interested in further." He promptly responded, "I am I didn't hire him, but later found offer. It was a scam to get a

25. An applicant came in wearing only one shoe. She explained that the other shoe was stolen off her foot on the bus.
26. His attache (case) opened. When he picked it up, the contents spilled revealing ladies' undergarments and assorted makeup and perfume.
27. He came to the interview with a moped and left it in the reception area. He didn't want it to get stolen, and stated that he would require indoor parking for the moped.
28. He took of his right shoe and sock, removed a medicated foot powder and dusted it on his foot and in the shoe. While he was putting back on his shoe and sock, he mentioned that he had to use the powder four times a day, and this was the time.

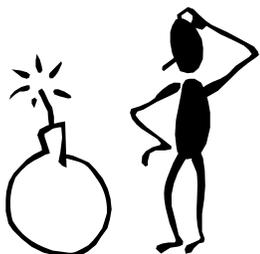
29. Candidate said he really didn't want to get a job, but the unemployment office needed proof that he was looking for one.
30. He whistled when the interviewer was talking.



31. Asked who the lovely babe was, pointing to the picture on my desk. When I said it was my wife, he asked if she was home now and wanted my phone number. I called security.

32. Asked if I wanted some cocaine before starting the interview.

33. She threw-up on my desk - immediately started asking questions about the job, like nothing happened.



34. Pointing to a black case he carried into my office, he said that if he was not hired, the bomb would go off. Disbelieving, I began to state why he would never be hired and that I was going to call the police. He then reached down to the case, flipped a switch and ran. No one was injured, but I did need a new desk.

(Wall Street Journal 1989).