



WALL STREET CLUB

Behavioral Interview Preparation

October 2, 2025

Kate Norman & George LaVigne

Key Takeaways of Behavioral Prep

1

Answering the WHY?

Being able to personally speak to why a specific industry and company are interesting to you is incredibly important and can differentiate you

2

STAR Setup

Best way to answer a question is to think through the star setup to sufficiently answer a question

3

10 Stories

Having stories to apply to interview questions can be super helpful

Why specific industry?

- Think introspectively about what you want out of your first job – certain skills, exposure?
- Could be because...
 - Love working on a lot of different things
 - Being in the same room as senior people
 - Working on a team
- **Either way you must be specific and personal**

Why specific company?

- Think introspectively about what you want out of your first job – training program, exposure?
- Could be because...
 - Culture – speak to anecdotes
 - Program structure – rotational, group placement
 - Broader reasons
- **Either way you must be specific and personal**

STAR

- **STAR Answer**
- Situation: what is happening, who was involved
- Task: Clarify your role and problem that is at hand
- Action: What did you do
 - Focus on skills, mindset, behavior that you utilized
- Result: Conclude with outcome/reflection

STAR

- **STAR Answer Applied – Framing your answer**

- Situation: what is happening, who was involved
- Task: Clarify your role and problem that is at hand
- Action: What did you do
 - Focus on skills, mindset, behavior that you utilized
- **Result: Conclude with outcome/reflection**

10 Stories – Key Things to Think About

Impressive Story / Memorable

Ethical Dilemma

Hardest Thing You Have Ever Done

Flexibility/Time Management

Time You Failed

Dedication

Goal

10 Stories

- **Simple Questions**

- What do you like to do for fun?
- 3 Strengths and 3 Weaknesses
- What is your biggest accomplishment?

10 Stories

- How do you handle/approach conflict?
- How do you deal with a project where the instructions are unclear?
- Biggest risk you have ever taken?
- Why did you attend Notre Dame?
- Tell me about a time you failed to honor a commitment
- How do you deal with a project you cannot solve?

Market Questions

- Tell me about an M&A deal you have been following recently
 - Know key financials
 - EV/EBITDA
 - Premium
 - How is it financed? Debt / equity?
 - Strategy, why is the deal happening?
 - & more!

Market Questions

- What is happening in the markets?
 - What are 3 current events that effected the market last week?
- Know key economic indicators!
 - Unemployment Rate
 - Risk Free Rate (also news on expected rate cuts)
 - Inflation / CPI

Market Questions

- What is an industry you have been following?
- What have been recent trends affecting business within the space?