

## ACE MOCK INTERVIEW SUMMARY WITH COMMENTARY



### 1. HOW DID YOU SPEND YOUR TIME DURING THE CRISIS? *(Seems like a rather benign question, but answer to the first question can really set the tone for the rest of the interview)*

**John:** spent time to help improve his skills with Revit and photography. He also had a small issue with his internet connection at the beginning of his answer. Someone can point this out and how to be prepared for situations like this. Might end up being a phone interview.

**Kani:** Spent time getting to know herself and her family

**Rachel:** spent reading comic books. Although this isn't necessary a bad thing, she didn't explain why this was a fruitful way to spend her time

### 2. WHAT'S THE MOST EXCITING PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY? *(A general question to find out more about the candidate, helps if the candidate has something to provide that is relevant to the work environment or your work ethic)*

**John:** Being able to interact with people with different perspectives and work together on projects

**Kani:** Going to see one of her teachers for advice as well as Marching Band. She talks about getting better at something over time.

**Rachel:** Lunch is her favorite part of the day. This shows employer that she does not like being challenged or doing work.

### 3. DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES? *(This question helps gives the employer a sense on how much you are willing to do outside your normal work....for example, leadership roles and gaining new skills)*

**John:** Participates on Speech and Debate team and hold a leadership position. He also attends the ACE mentor program. Participation ACE mentor program shows the employer that you are proactive in seeking out what you want to do and also have gaining some experience about the AEC industries.

**Kani:** Participates in Marching Band. This really showed her level of commitment especially band as a team activity.

**Rachel:** Doesn't participate in any activities, but watches Netflix on a consistent basis. There is educational content on Netflix, but I would venture to guess that she does not watch those.

**4. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT GROUP PROJECTS?** *(When you work in an AEC firm, very rarely do you work alone. This question tries to find out a little more about the candidate in this area)*

**John:** He spoke about how communication was key to success in group work.

**Kani:** When groups have the right synergy, she enjoys the outcomes of these types of group activities.

**Rachel:** She likes to sit back and let others do the work. Kani and Rachel will not get along. This shows the employer that you cannot contribute in team environments.

**5. DO YOU HAVE ANY MENTORS, SOMEONE WHO INSPIRES YOU?** *(This question is structured around being proactive and seeking out guidance to help you grow)*

**John:** A former employer that works in the AEC industry. He was specific on what the mentor taught him.

**Kani:** Her brother is her mentor in life. The ACE Mentor program has given her opportunities to have guidance with industry professionals. After a follow-up question from Megan, she went into more detail on why ACE has helped her get to where she is today.

**Rachel:** After a disruption to get a drink, she goes on to say that her Cat Evelyn inspires her to live her best life through sunbathing and laying around the house.

**6. WHAT'S THE LAST THING YOU SOUGHT OUT KNOWLEDGE FOR THAT WASN'T FOR SCHOOL?** *(employers might ask this question to see if you have any initiative to learn new skills)*

**John:** Photography

**Rachel:** Putting salt on Slugs. "Animal Cruelty" . She probably a pyro maniac/arsonist as well.

**7. DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR COMPANY AND WHAT WE DO?** *(Please take the time in the interview process to interview the company you are working for. Do some research on the company and ask questions about the work and people)*

**John:** Asked about the scope of work and timeline on the NASA project.

**Kani:** Asked about the type of things she might be doing and also the culture of the company.

**Rachel:** Only cared about the pay.....Show me the Money!

**8. WHAT TYPES OF SOFTWARE HAVE YOU UTILIZED?** *(Almost guaranteed this question will come up, especially coming out of college. Companies want to know what types of software assets you already have. If there are two candidates with similar qualifications and personalities, they might choose one over the other based on software experience. Candidates should work on gaining as much software experience in high school and college. Also, be honest about your capabilities)*

**John:** Revit, Sketchup, Inventor

**Kani:** Revit and Microsoft office.

**Rachel:** she is allergic to computers.

**9. WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST LIFE CHALLENGE? HOW DID YOU OVERCOME IT?** *(The company wants to know how you handle pressure and your ability to overcome problems)*

**John:** He was able to bring up his grades

**Kani:** Colorism and sexism has been a challenge in her life. It motivates her to do better.

**Rachel:** Everybody has had problems in their lives. Rachael was not able to describe one. Also, another disturbance during the video with her mother, which also shows that she has problems with authority.

**10. WHAT DO YOU WANT OUT OF THIS INTERNSHIP:** *(The company wants to see if you set goals for yourself and are motivated to achieve more as your career progresses)*

**John:** Wants to get into the practical applications of Architecture and continuing to develop professional skills.

**Kani:** Wants on the job experience to help her make a informed decision on exactly the type of engineer she wants to be. She also understands that internships are important building blocks to a successful career.

**Rachel:** Rachel reiterates that she just needs the dough to finance her spending habits.