

## Interview Guide – Alternate Questions

Individual Contributor Benchmark

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*Signature Profile*

## Interview Guide – Alternate Questions

### Individual Contributor Benchmark

#### Predictive Competencies:

- Focuses on Measurable Outputs
- Champions Initiatives and Leads Change
- Demonstrates Learning Orientation
- Prioritizes Tasks
- Analyzes and Resolves Customer Problems
- Motivated by Attention to Detail

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Focuses on Measurable Outputs

<p><b>Question 1:</b> What distinguishes an average workday from a really great workday?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ high level of activity and a full use of time</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 2:</b> What could you change to increase the number of 'great' workdays?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ relaxation only after increased output</li> <li>▪ measures accomplishments in quantitative units</li> <li>▪ consistency in task completion</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 3:</b> How strong are your time management skills? Why?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ keeps an organized to-do list</li> <li>▪ persistence</li> <li>▪ increased output whether tasks are repetitious or varied</li> <li>▪ pride in the quantity they are able to accomplish within a given timeframe</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

- Excellent | Always matched the points to look for
- Average | Matched some of the points to look for
- Poor | Did not match any of the points to look for

## Champions Initiatives and Leads Change

<p><b>Question 1:</b> Tell me about a past situation in which you thought the current approach to meeting an organizational objective was not as effective as it once was.</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 2:</b> What steps did you take?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ willingness to explore alternatives without prompting or clear-cut directives</li> <li>▪ focuses on selective changes that provide real added value; does not seek change for the sake of change</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 3:</b> How would you rate your effectiveness at championing new initiatives or approaches and why?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ takes the lead in initiating constructive changes</li> <li>▪ willingness to stretch beyond what is safe or comfortable to meet expected results</li> <li>▪ provides the voice and resources to integrate needed changes within their group</li> <li>▪ willingness to push original or creative thinking when organizational goals are at risk</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

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## Demonstrates Learning Orientation

<p><b>Question 1:</b> Tell me about the technical demands of your last position.</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 2:</b> What approaches do you find most useful when developing your technical expertise?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ formal training opportunities</li> <li>▪ review of professional publications, newsletters, and other current information in their own and related fields</li> <li>▪ routine collection and review of key data and information to track progress on important functions</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 3:</b> On a scale of 1-10 (10=high), how would colleagues or customers rate your ability to understand their technical needs? Why?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ intellectually curious and believes that education never ends</li> <li>▪ awareness of technical developments in their field and related fields</li> <li>▪ anticipation of rather than reaction to changing technologies</li> <li>▪ incorporates professional expertise into projects and new initiatives</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

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## Prioritizes Tasks

<p><b>Question 1:</b> Describe the steps you take to prioritize steps within a project.</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ a needs analysis to determine if all of the steps can be feasibly met</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 2:</b> How do you deal with competing demands for your time when working on a project?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ prioritization is based on a combination of what steps can feasibly be accomplished</li> <li>▪ quickly recognizes if the problem is not solvable</li> <li>▪ makes progress toward project completion and alters solutions when obstacles arise</li> <li>▪ minimizes emotional involvement that may make it difficult to disengage from approaches that are unlikely to be successful</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 3:</b> What is your success rate in completing steps within a project on time and why?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ a solid knowledge of project steps and the current situation</li> <li>▪ a broad frame of reference to apply their kit of solutions to the project at hand</li> <li>▪ an understanding of the project’s details and the political environment as well as a readiness to take the steps necessary to achieve goals</li> <li>▪ a match based on hard criteria and not emotions</li> <li>▪ a focused, goal-oriented attitude that enables them to complete each step within the project</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

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## Analyzes and Resolves Customer Problems

<p><b>Question 1:</b> Describe a recent problem you've faced.</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 2:</b> How did you resolve it?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ an objective analysis of the problem</li> <li>▪ taking ownership of the solution</li> <li>▪ a willingness to look beyond standard procedures</li> <li>▪ identifying the root of the problem, not just treating symptoms</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 3:</b> On a scale of 1-10 (10=high), how successful are your problem-solving efforts? Why are your solutions satisfactory or unsatisfactory?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ genuine interest in resolving problems</li> <li>▪ viewing problem resolution as an opportunity to strengthen relationships, not as an inconvenience</li> <li>▪ a commitment to stay focused until the solution is found</li> <li>▪ closing the loop to ensure satisfaction; not passing the problem on to someone else</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

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## Motivated by Attention to Detail

<p><b>Question 1:</b> Tell me about the need for documentation of steps or results in your last position.</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 2:</b> How do you judge successful completion of a task or project?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ attention to detail</li> <li>▪ avoidance of mistakes</li> <li>▪ high personal standards around quality</li> <li>▪ accurate and precise for its own sake</li> <li>▪ takes pride in depth of expertise acquired for the job</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p><b>Question 3:</b> Could someone else recreate the steps you took to accomplish a task? What would help or hinder that effort?</p> <p><b>Look for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ consistency in detail orientation regardless of the task</li> <li>▪ concrete documentation of details versus relying on memory</li> <li>▪ organized approach to tracking details</li> </ul>	<p>Notes:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

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937.259.1200 | 800.254.5995

ChallyAssessment@chally.com | [www.chally.com](http://www.chally.com)