# Tips on Interviewing

Courtesy of TOPS, An SOS Staffing Solutions Company and Student Lingo

## Employers Generally Look for People Who Are...

Dependable Flexible Motivated Goal Oriented Creative

Innovative Problem Solvers **Ambitious Quick Learners** Organized

**Detail Oriented** Adaptable Cooperative Time Wise Decisive

Assertive **Team Players Self-Starters** Computer Literate **Good Communicators** 

## Get Prepared—How Would You Answer These Commonly Asked **Interviewing Questions...**

- Tell me something about yourself. 1.
- 2. Why did you leave your last job?
- What is your greatest strength/weakness? 3.
- Where do you see yourself 3-5 years from now? 4.
- 5. Why do you think we should hire you for this job?
- Why do you want to work for this company? 6.
- What would you do if...? 7.
- Can you work under pressure? 8.
- What was your favorite job and why? 9.
- What was your least favorite job and why? 10.
- How do you handle difficult people? 11.
- How well do you do taking directions? 12.
- How are your experience and skills applicable to the work we do 13. here?
- 14. What type of personalities do you prefer not to work with?
- 15. What kind of salary/compensation would you be expecting?
- Do you have a means of transportation?

### **Avoid These Common Interviewing Mistakes...**

- **Arriving Late**
- Arriving Too Early
- **Dressing Wrong**
- Smoking Before Interview/ Smelling Like Smoke
- Drinking
- Not Bringing a Pen
- Chewing Gum
- Admitting a Flaw
- Name-Dropping
- Handshake Failure
- Glancing at Your Watch

- Bringing Along a Friend, Relative or Child
- Not Doing All Your Homework
- Not Knowing Your Own Strengths
- Asking Too Many Questions
- Not Asking Any Questions
- **Inquiring About Benefits** Too Soon
- Revealing Your Price Tag
- Crying Discrimination

- **Bad-Mouthing Your Former Employer**
- Losing Your Cool
- Checking Cell Phone
- Tapping Pen or Pencil
- **Telling Jokes**
- Using Slang
- Lie or Exaggerate
- Answering With A Simple Yes or No
- Bring Up Personal Issues
- Acting Desperate

### Do This...

- Research
- Dress to Impress
- **Prepare Intelligent Questions**
- Take Extra Resumes
- Make Eye Contact

- Shake Hands
- Introduce Yourself
- Be Positive
- Tell Your Story

- Emphasize "I Want This Job"
- Answer the Questions Asked
- Write Thank You Note After

