Software Quality Assurance Interview Guide

Example Basic Interview Questions

- What is the difference between Software Testing and Software Quality Assurance?
- Ask several "How would you handle this situation?" questions designed to evaluate the candidate's ability to diagnose and respond to situations.
- What part do you like the most about QA work?
- What part do you like the least about QA work?
- What was your biggest QA challenge and how did you overcome this challenge?

Problem Solving Questions Done Independently

This phase evaluates independent critical thinking and depth of QA knowledge without interviewer influence. See page 2 for an example.

Problem Solving Questions Done Interactively

This phase evaluates how candidates respond to feedback, navigate ambiguity, and collaborate under dynamic discussion. See page 3 for an example.

Interview Wrap-up

The final phase of the interview allows candidates to ask questions of the interviewer or interview team. Encourage open dialogue about the role, team, or company. This stage also reveals a candidate's level of engagement and genuine interest. Candidates who review the job description carefully and research the company often demonstrate enthusiasm and initiative.

Interview Philosophy

The structure outlined above is designed to evaluate QA professionals in practical, real-world situations. The objective is not to identify perfect answers, but to understand how candidates think about quality, assess risk, and communicate their reasoning. Strong QA engineers typically demonstrate curiosity, structured problem-solving, and the ability to adapt when requirements or assumptions change. The following pages include example questions from both the Independent and Interactive problem-solving phases to illustrate how this interview structure is applied in practice.

Write 4 test cases for the following use case:

"Customer tries to purchase a book with the credit card payment option."

Test Case 1:

Test Case 2:

Test Case 3:

Test Case 4:

1. How would you test a vending machine like the one above?

2. What components of the above vending machine would you determine to be the most important? (customer perspective, maintenance perspective, etc)

3. How would you improve or modernize the design shown above?