



Discuss these questions in pairs.

What is the difference between work and a job?

What job do you want to have in five years' time?

What are the most important 3-5 things you would look for when finding a job?

What are you trying to do in order to find a job that you really like?

What is one job you wouldn't like to do? Why not?

List some reasons people may be unhappy with their job. What do you think are the most common reasons?

What are some different ways people can lose their job?

What information should you put on your CV?

What advice would you give someone who is going to a job interview?

4 READING & VOCABULARY

- a Look at the photo with the article. What do you think is happening? Do you think the question is one which someone might really ask in this situation? Why (not)?
- b Read the article once and find out. How would *you* answer the question?

Guessing the meaning of new words and phrases

When you are reading and find a word or phrase you don't know:

- 1 Try to guess the meaning from the context (i.e. the other words around it). Think also about what part of speech the unknown word is (e.g. a verb, an adjective, etc.), whether it is similar to another English word you know, or whether it is similar to a word in your language.
- 2 If you still can't work out what the word or phrase means, either ignore it and carry on reading or use a dictionary (or glossary if there is one) to help you.

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Extreme interviews

WHAT sort of dinosaur are you? If you answered Tyrannosaurus rex, then the bad news is that you probably won't get the job you're applying for.

 Comment  Print

1 Welcome to the strange world of 'extreme interviewing', the latest trend from America in which interviewers throw **bizarre** questions at candidates to see how they react.

5 It may seem like a game, but extreme interviewing is deadly serious. The idea is to see how quickly job-seekers **think on their feet** and, at a time when 25% of recent graduates are unemployed, it offers employers a new way of separating the brilliant candidates from the merely very good.

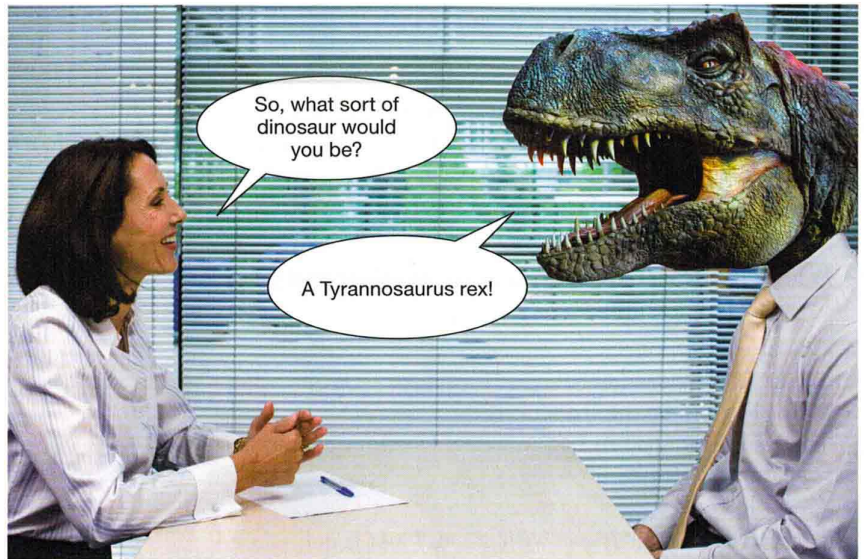
This new **approach** to selecting candidates comes from Silicon Valley in California — where else? Google, famous for its **demanding** interview process, asked a recent candidate: 'You are stranded on a desert island. You have 60 seconds to choose people of 10 professions to come with you. Who do you choose? Go!'

20 One of the early pioneers of extreme interviewing was Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who could be famously cruel with **job seekers**. Faced once with a candidate he considered boring, Jobs suddenly pretended to be a chicken, **flapping** his arms and making clucking noises round the unfortunate applicant, waiting to see what he would do. In fact, the secret to extreme interviewing is neither in the question nor the answer. It is in the candidate's reaction.

25 David Moyle, a headhunter with the **recruitment agency** Eximius Group in London, who admits to using the dinosaur question when selecting candidates, said: 'Essentially, that kind of interviewing is used by us to give someone an opportunity to show they are smart and not easily **flustered**.'

'Most candidates actually get something out of it, it's not about trying to **crush** them. We are trying to give them an opportunity to show their personality, **rather than** just showing how they perform in an interview.'

30 Of course, getting the job is just the start. In the modern business world, survival will depend on what sort of dinosaur you **really** are.



Glossary

Silicon Valley the informal name for the region in northern California where many of the world's largest technology corporations are based

headhunter a person whose job it is to find people with the necessary skills to work for a company (often in executive posts), and to persuade them to join that company

c Read the article again carefully. With a partner, try to work out what the **highlighted** words and phrases might mean, and how you think they are pronounced.

d Now match the words and phrases with 1–10.

- 1 _____ *adj* needing a lot of effort and skill
- 2 _____ *adj* nervous and confused, especially because you have been given a lot to do or are in a hurry
- 3 _____ *adj* very strange or unusual
- 4 _____ **IDM** to be able to think and react to things very quickly without any preparation
- 5 _____ *noun* a way of doing or thinking about something
- 6 _____ *phrase* instead of
- 7 _____ *verb* to destroy somebody's confidence
- 8 _____ *noun* a specialist company which finds and interviews candidates to fill job vacancies in other companies
- 9 _____ *noun* people who are looking for a job
- 10 _____ *verb* moving sth quickly up and down, e.g. wings

e (18)) Listen and check. Underline the stressed syllables.

f Using your own words, answer the questions with a partner.

- 1 What are extreme interviews?
- 2 What kind of companies first started using them?
- 3 Why do some people think that they are better than normal interviews?

g Do you think extreme interviews are a good way of choosing candidates? Which of the questions below (used in real interviews) do you think would work well? Why?

On a scale of 1–10, how weird are you?

Which TV character are you most like?

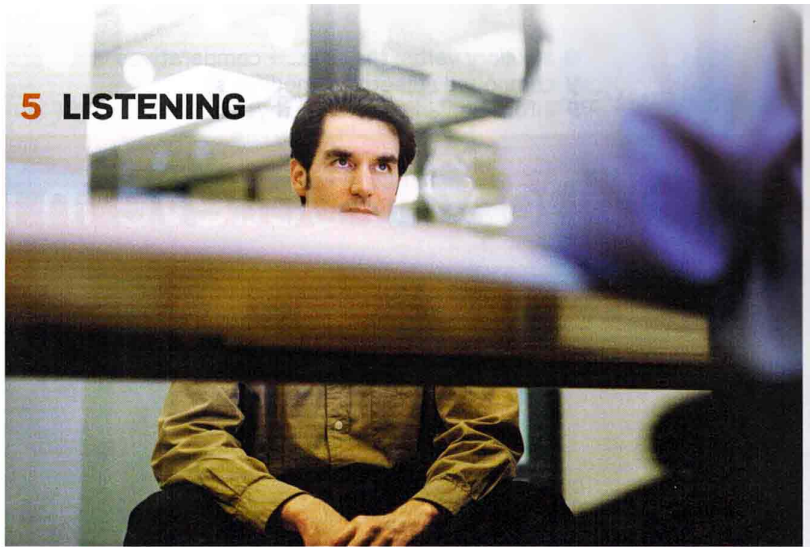
Room, desk, or car – which do you clean first?

Does life fascinate you?

If you were a car, what car would you be?

Can you name three Lady Gaga songs?

5 LISTENING



- a Have you ever been for a job interview? What kind of questions did they ask you? Did you get the job?
- b (19)) Listen to five people talking about a strange question they were asked in job interviews. Complete the questions in the first column.

What strange question were they asked?	How did they answer?	What happened in the end?
1 Do you still _____?		
2 What would make you _____ a _____?		
3 _____ are you? How much _____ you _____?		
4 _____ would you like to be reincarnated as?		
5 Are you planning to _____?		

c Listen again and make notes in the rest of the chart.

d Which of the questions did you think were good or bad to ask at an interview?

6 SPEAKING

- a ► **Communication** *Extreme interviews A p.104 B p.108.* Ask your partner 'extreme interview' questions.
- b Write three extreme interview questions of your own, which you think might tell you something interesting about another person.
- c Ask your questions to as many other students as possible and answer theirs.
- d Which questions did you think were the most interesting? Why?

1A EXTREME INTERVIEWS

Student A

- a** You are giving **B** an extreme interview for a job in your company. Ask **B** the questions and ask him / her to give reasons for his / her answers. Then say if you would give him / her the job and why (not).

- 1 Which one aspect of your personality would you change if you could, and why?
- 2 If you could have dinner with anyone from history, who would you choose?
- 3 If you were an animal, which animal would you be?
- 4 What kind of things make you angry?
- 5 If you had to spend the rest of your life on a deserted island (with plenty of food and water), what two things would you want to have with you?
- 6 Which TV or film character would you most like to be?
- 7 What's the best (or worst) decision you've ever made?
- 8 If I came to your house for dinner, what would you cook for me?

- b** Now answer **B**'s questions. Try to think quickly and make a good impression. Give good reasons for your answers.

1A EXTREME INTERVIEWS

Student B

- a** **A** is going to give you an extreme interview for a job in his / her company. Answer the questions. Try to think quickly and make a good impression. Give good reasons for your answers.
- b** Now give **A** an extreme interview for a job in your company, using the questions below. Ask him / her to give reasons for his / her answers. Then say if you would give him / her the job, and why (not).

- 1 Which three adjectives describe you best?
- 2 If you were a type of food, what type of food would you be?
- 3 How do you normally treat animals?
- 4 Who do you admire most, and why?
- 5 If you could be a super hero, what would you want your superpowers to be?
- 6 Tell me about something in your life that you are really proud of.
- 7 If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who would you like to see play the lead role as you?
- 8 If you could have six months with no obligations or financial limitations, what would you do with the time?