



# JOURNALISM INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- Why do you want to work for [news organization name]?
- Tell me about a story you covered that went very well.
- Have you ever failed? What did you learn from the experience?
- How well do you handle deadline pressure?
- What publications do you read? What news shows do you watch? Why?
- What is your philosophy of journalism?
- What do you think of our paper/magazine/show/station? How would you make it better?
- Please give me a short critique of our paper/broadcast/magazine.
- What stories would you like to cover? (You should have at least 5 ideas).
- Why will you make a successful journalist?
- What is your news philosophy?
- What is the most recent book you've read?
- You have 5 minutes to describe the most relevant and specific items in your background that show that you are uniquely qualified for this job.
- Are you tough? Are you aggressive? Provide examples.
- Give me an example of a story you think you handled very well.
- Give me an example of a story you wish you had covered differently. How would you cover it now?
- Tell me about your work habits. Would you describe yourself as a hard worker?
- Do you work well under pressure? Do you mind working overtime?
- In light of recent world events, do you feel that the media has placed themselves in positive light with regard to public support? Why or why not?
- How do you feel about the state of journalism today?
- Was the time you spent traveling worth the time you devoted to it?
- Do you think your extracurricular activities were worth the time you devoted to them?
- What do you have, that others may not, that is right for this organization?
- Walk me through a situation in which you had to get information by asking a lot of questions of a number of people. What were their reactions to the questions? When did you have to go back and rephrase your questions?
- What arguments did you spontaneously think of during the discussion? How did it turn out?
- What are some of the most difficult writing assignments you have been given or have taken on yourself? Please explain.
- Tell me about a time in which you had to use your written communication skills in order to get an important point across.
- Describe for me a time when you effectively utilized your editing skills in a written project.
- Can you describe a situation in which your written work was criticized?
- What classroom experiences do you feel have best prepared you for a career in writing/editing/research?
- In the areas where your experience falls short for this job, what steps will you take to make up for this shortfall?
- What have you done in the last year to improve your writing/editing/ researching skills?