

STORY BANK WORKSHEET

Job Interview Blueprint, Part 16. Fill in one page per story, real events only.

How to use this

- Build 6-10 real stories. You don't need all 10 categories – pick the ones you actually have a story for.
- Write Action in the most detail. It should be the longest section – what did YOU personally do.
- Use “I” for your own decisions and contributions, “we” only for team context (Part 5).
- Prepare two hard follow-up questions per story so you are not caught off guard (Part 15).
- Never invent a result or a detail that did not happen (Part 35).

Categories in this worksheet

1. Technical problem
2. Failure
3. Difficult person
4. Team conflict
5. Leadership without authority
6. Customer / user problem
7. Project you're proud of
8. Major change
9. Learning something difficult
10. Incident / security example (if relevant)

TECHNICAL PROBLEM

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

FAILURE

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

DIFFICULT PERSON

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

TEAM CONFLICT

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

LEADERSHIP WITHOUT AUTHORITY

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

CUSTOMER / USER PROBLEM

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

PROJECT YOU'RE PROUD OF

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

MAJOR CHANGE

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

LEARNING SOMETHING DIFFICULT

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2

INCIDENT / SECURITY EXAMPLE (IF RELEVANT)

SITUATION (brief context, ~2 sentences)

TASK (what was actually your responsibility)

ACTION (what did YOU personally do - the longest section)

RESULT (what changed - honest numbers if you have them)

LESSON (what you'd say if asked "what did you learn")

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q1

HARD FOLLOW-UP Q2