

Improv

in



Your Job Search





**ROI**

Richard  
Oberbruner  
Improv

Linkedin / Facebook

[richardimprov@gmail.com](mailto:richardimprov@gmail.com)

630-664-6616

Worknet  
DuPage

Harper  
College



Community

Career

NSENG

Center



The OBJ's

Learn and apply  
the 5 Elements  
of Improv

Trust

Communication

Acceptance

Building

Spontaneity

Laff  
-tur

Improv based on  
this simple premise:

Yes, and . . .

Plus its opposite

No, but . . .

# Improv Warm Up's

1 – 10 Hand Clap

Zip Zap Zup

Build a Sentence

Build a Mission Statement

Unemployment Museum Statue

Prepared

Ready



General Question  
General Answer

Don't share details  
unless asked

*Less is more*

EXAMPLES:

Tell me about yourself.  
What are you looking for?  
Where do you see  
yourself in five years?

## Interview Demo

- Back2back

## Face2Face Interview Demo

- Gibberish
- One Word Sentences
- Last Thought, First Thought

## **Know Your Script! (handout)**

Know what you're going to say before you say it  
Deliver the answer as if you're making it up right there

### **Q. You changed jobs a lot in the last 10 years. Why?**

A. It's the nature of the economy. Technology drives the speed of change. Knowledge is now more flexible than ever. Therefore, my skills and *how* I use them need to be up-to-date and ever-changing.

### **Q. Why did you leave your last job?**

A1. Lay off, down size, re-org . . . Common terms ok here

A2. Company needs were changing and my position was no longer a fit.

A3. Anyone who was fired or quit needs to develop a specific scripted answer

# Make yourself memorable

## NETWORKING

What's your hook?

Mine is The Second City.

What can you say that makes them stop in their tracks?

Name drop!

## INTERVIEW

Get curious about the person you're talking to

Reverse Questions

Ask chemistry questions:

*If I was hired for this position, who will I be working with?*

*Who is on the team?*

*How does it function best?*

*What top three skills do you look for in a leader?*

# Handle Behavioral Questions with Real or Hypothetical Answers

Real

Yes, and . . .

PARTNER 1

Hypothetical

No, but . . . If I was, here is  
how I would handle it . . .

PARTNER 2

## 8 Behavioral Questions Employers are Asking Executive Candidates

- 1.** Tell me about the last time you encountered a problem in your department and how you dealt with it?
- 2.** How many and what types of networks are you a part of and why?
- 3.** What methodology do you use to evaluate the financial success of a business?
- 4.** Do you have experience working with a board of directors and how do you foster relationships at this level?

## 8 Behavioral Questions Employers are Asking Executive Candidates

5. Have you ever had to terminate an employee? If so, why and how did you handle it?
6. What one best method would you recommend for dealing with difficult clients?
7. What are some important trends in our industry and how do they affect us?
8. If you knew that another member of the management team was committing fraud, how would you handle this?

2 Ways of Looking at the Job Seeker's Equation  
*Need + Fit + Chemistry = Offer*

1) Personal  
N + F + C

2) Professional  
N + F + C



## Take Away's

- Apply each of the 5 Elements in your job search
- Take your job search seriously but take yourself lightly
- Learn to laugh at the absurdity of your situation
- Available for 1on1 consultations



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