



VEF 2012

Interview experience sharing

VEF Fellow 2011

- Preparation
 - Profile
 - Research interest/experience
 - School/degree selection
 - English language
 - Communication skill
- Q & A
- Interview
 - Appearance & Manner
 - Pre-departure
 - During the interview
 - After the interview
 - Tips

Preparation - Profile

VEF application

- SOP
 - CV
 - LOR (if applicable)
 - Transcript
- * Your goal
 - * Your ability
 - * Your competence

Preparation - Research

- Research interest:
 - your motivation toward it
 - reality in Vietnam vs developed countries.
- Research experience:
 - what did you do
 - how did you do
 - what did you learn
 - what do you need
- Your own research:
 - research questions & background
 - methodology
 - key results
 - overall outcome (local awards / cited/ published/ implement)

Preparation - Selection

- School selections:
 - Why
 - Who
 - How



- Degree selections:
 - Why
 - How

Better fit

Preparation - English

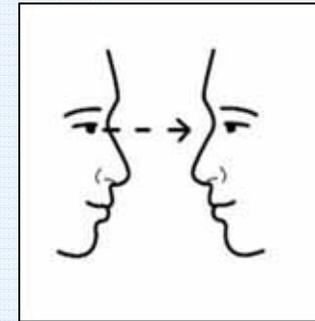
- **General English:**
 - Speaking & Listening (American English)
 - Pronunciation
 - Answer in many ways
 - Participate in English group/club
 - Rehearsal

- **Technical English:**
 - Technical terms (specialist dictionary)
 - Scientific research terms

Preparation - Communication



Listening



Eye-contact



Controlling volume



Illustration

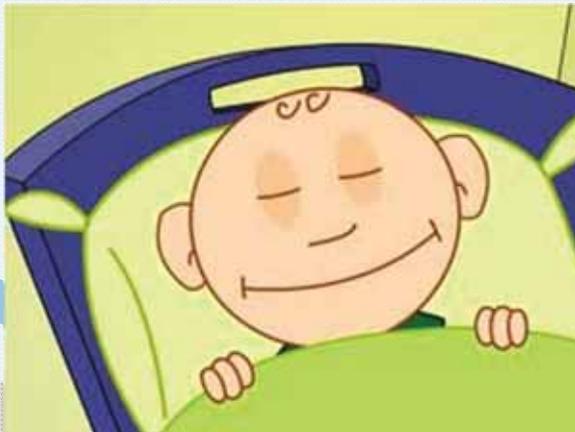
1 day before I-day



relax



Go to bed early



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Interview day-pre-departure

Business attire



“professional” formal appearance



Be ahead of time



Don't forget to smile



Interview - intro

Shake hands - introduce

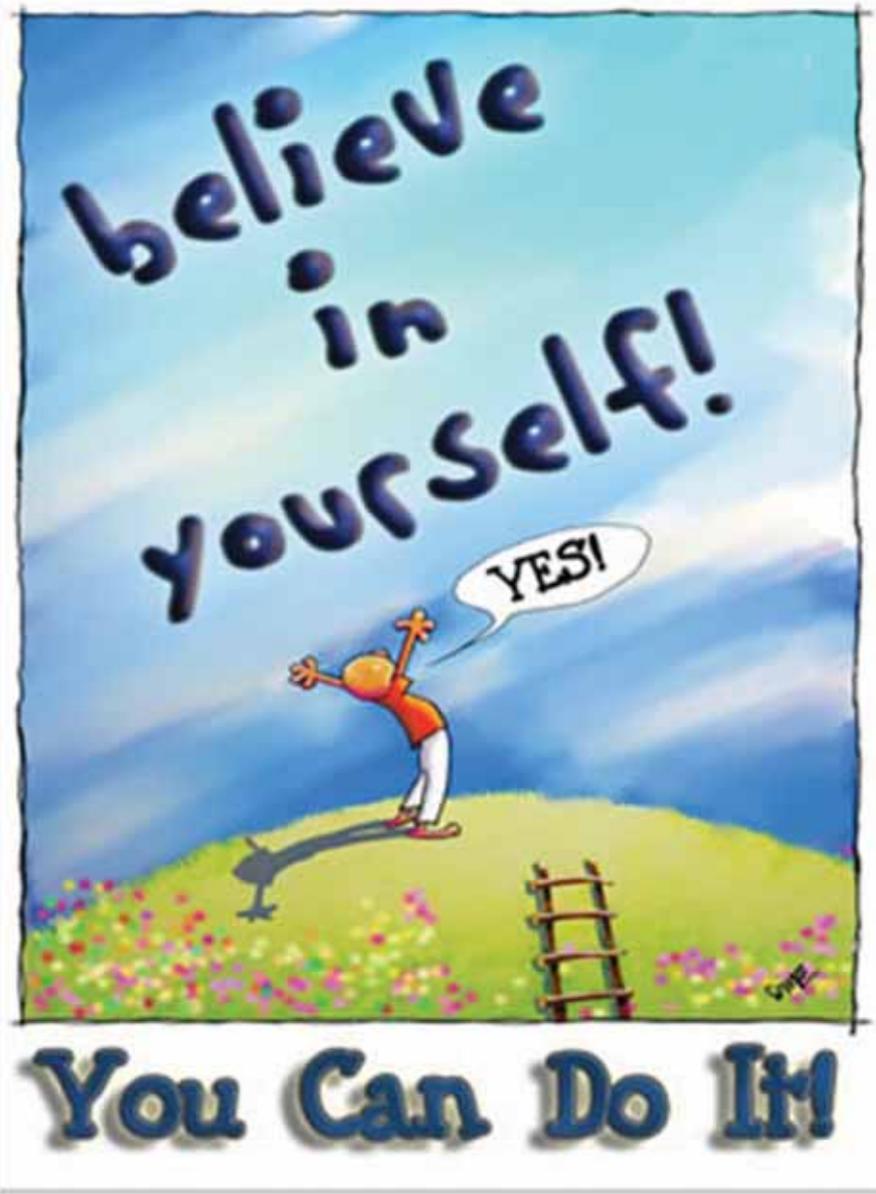


REMEMBER

Be confident



Be honest



Interview - closing



Clean before leave



How to deal with incidents during interview?



Incidents	Solutions
You do not hear the question clearly	Could you please repeat the question? So you mean that...?
You do not know the answer	Say something related to the question : I do not know about this, but I am pretty sure that...
The professors do not understand your answer	Speak slowly and clearly. Make your answer simpler Using white board for illustration
Your answer is wrong	Say sorry and answer it again

Common questions

- Could you please introduce yourself?
- Can you say something about your hobbies?
- Why do you choose this major?
- Why do you choose the U.S for your graduate study?
- What will you do after you graduate?
- How do you conduct a scientific project?
- Tell me about your current (favorite) project?
- Are your results new compared to the others'?

Key to success



- Be well-prepared
- Be confident

References

- www.vef.gov (source for applicants)
- www.vietphd.org (keyword: VEF interview)
- www.usnews.com
- School websites
- Consultation with former cohort Fellows

Thanks for your attention!



*Do you have
a
question?*

*Ms. Trang Pham (email: tranglify@yahoo.com)
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