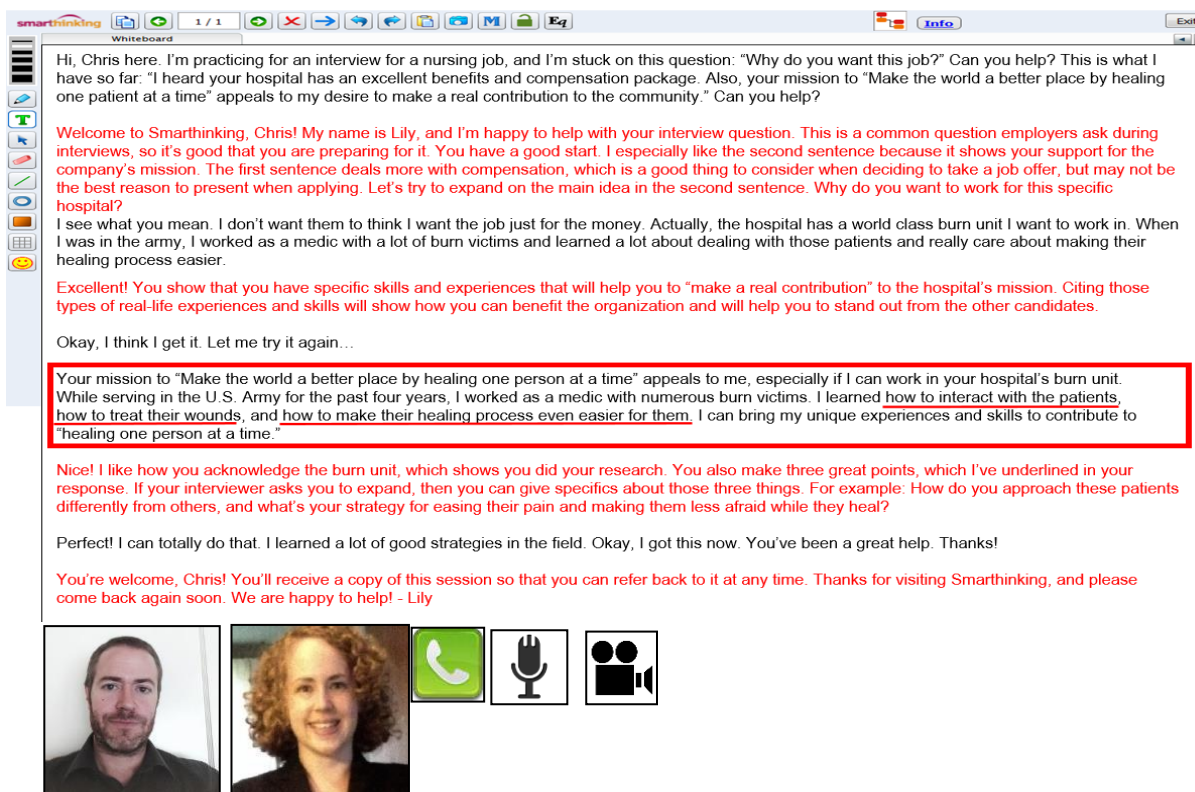


# Ace your job interview... with help from Smarthinking!

## Preparing for an interview?

Practice responses to the most common interview questions with an experienced coach. Meet your mock interviewer in a video-enabled whiteboard and practice your answers and interview presentation. Get personalized feedback on the spot to refine the story of how your skills and experience make you the best fit for the job.

Be fully prepared for this pivotal stage in your job search!



Hi, Chris here. I'm practicing for an interview for a nursing job, and I'm stuck on this question: "Why do you want this job?" Can you help? This is what I have so far: "I heard your hospital has an excellent benefits and compensation package. Also, your mission to "Make the world a better place by healing one patient at a time" appeals to my desire to make a real contribution to the community." Can you help?

Welcome to Smarthinking, Chris! My name is Lily, and I'm happy to help with your interview question. This is a common question employers ask during interviews, so it's good that you are preparing for it. You have a good start. I especially like the second sentence because it shows your support for the company's mission. The first sentence deals more with compensation, which is a good thing to consider when deciding to take a job offer, but may not be the best reason to present when applying. Let's try to expand on the main idea in the second sentence. Why do you want to work for this specific hospital?

I see what you mean. I don't want them to think I want the job just for the money. Actually, the hospital has a world class burn unit I want to work in. When I was in the army, I worked as a medic with a lot of burn victims and learned a lot about dealing with those patients and really care about making their healing process easier.

Excellent! You show that you have specific skills and experiences that will help you to "make a real contribution" to the hospital's mission. Citing those types of real-life experiences and skills will show how you can benefit the organization and will help you to stand out from the other candidates.

Okay, I think I get it. Let me try it again...

Your mission to "Make the world a better place by healing one person at a time" appeals to me, especially if I can work in your hospital's burn unit. While serving in the U.S. Army for the past four years, I worked as a medic with numerous burn victims. I learned how to interact with the patients, how to treat their wounds, and how to make their healing process even easier for them. I can bring my unique experiences and skills to contribute to "healing one person at a time."

Nice! I like how you acknowledge the burn unit, which shows you did your research. You also make three great points, which I've underlined in your response. If your interviewer asks you to expand, then you can give specifics about those three things. For example: How do you approach these patients differently from others, and what's your strategy for easing their pain and making them less afraid while they heal?

Perfect! I can totally do that. I learned a lot of good strategies in the field. Okay, I got this now. You've been a great help. Thanks!

You're welcome, Chris! You'll receive a copy of this session so that you can refer back to it at any time. Thanks for visiting Smarthinking, and please come back again soon. We are happy to help! - Lily

Work with  
your  
experienced  
coach in a  
video-enabled  
session.

Use both text  
and video to  
practice and  
polish your  
interview  
responses.

Smarthinking coaches give you the interview guidance and practice you need to sell your unique skill set on interview day!