

The Job Interview

A young man was preparing for his first job interview. His friends gave him advice on what to wear, how to act, and what to say. "Don't laugh or smile. Be serious," they told him. "It will make you seem more sophisticated."

He arrived for his interview 15 minutes early and was greeted by a cheerful woman standing at the front desk. He told her who he was and why he was there. She promptly escorted him to a conference room and offered him a cup of coffee.

He decided to ask her a few questions about the job, hoping that a brief exchange with a neutral person would calm his nerves. She gave him insight on the position and in turn asked about his education. Their conversation flowed naturally, and he hoped that the interview would go as well.



Finally, the woman looked at her watch and said, "You're punctual, enthusiastic, easy to talk to, and with your background, you'd make an excellent employee here. When can you start?"

"What?" the young man asked.

"The job is yours if you want it," the woman replied.

He stared at her for a moment; then she said, "Oh, my goodness. I was so preoccupied thinking about our receptionist who is out sick today that I never introduced myself to you. I'm Ms. Whitaker from HR. We spoke on the phone."

The young man was astonished. He had just landed his first job doing everything his friends told him not to do. And he had just realized an important lesson: It always pays to be yourself.

In the work of Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, that is sound advice, indeed.

– Beecher Hunter