

Fortune Favors the Prepared: How to Shine in Radiology Residency Interviews

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Our comprehensive **step-by-step guide** seeks to empower aspiring residents with the knowledge and tools essential for success in the **application** and **interview** processes.

Identify Interview Components

Research and Preparation

Research common interview questions

Practice responses

Mock interviews

Refine communication skills

Final Preparation

Interview Day

Preparation Methods

Applicant Background

Reflect on personal experiences

Practice and Rehearsal

Research Program-specific Questions

Prepare questions

Questions for Faculty/Residents

Prepare questions for program specifics

Final Preparation

Interview Day

Feedback Loop

Seek Feedback from peers/mentors

Purpose

- One of the biggest challenges facing applicants is how to convey their achievements, strengths and personality in a short window of time.
- Our experience as applicants and interviewers has inspired us to share our methodology of interview preparation, which to quote Louis Pasteur, boils down to "Fortune favors the prepared mind."

Methods/Materials

Our methodology of interview preparation includes

1. Preparing and rehearsing answers to the most common radiology residency interview questions.
2. Listing major contributions made to each activity listed on ERAS to highlight strengths.
3. Preparing questions for radiology residents and faculty.
4. Practicing the virtual interview to optimize set-up and poise.

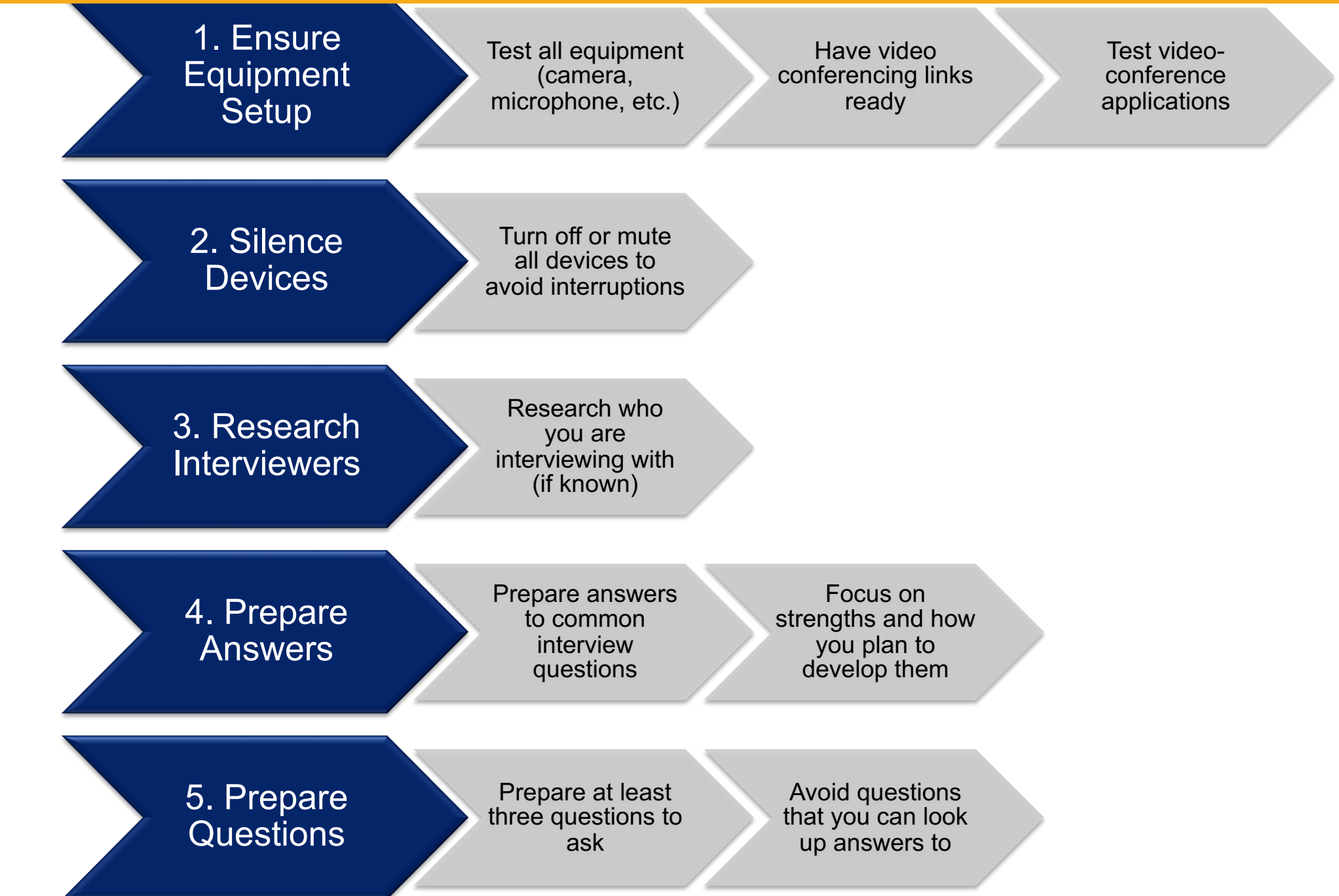
Results

- Over the past 6 years, we have used this resource as a template for interview preparation and shared with medical students rotating on radiology and neuroradiology.
- The applicants provided us with positive feedback before and after interviews, stating that our resource was very helpful.

Conclusions

- The goal is to empower radiology resident applicants to prepare for interviews in a way that allows them to put their best foot forward and communicate their strengths and achievements in a thoughtful way.
- Our method of interview preparation has been consistently well-received by medical students throughout the interview process.

Interview Preparation Checklist



For Faculty:

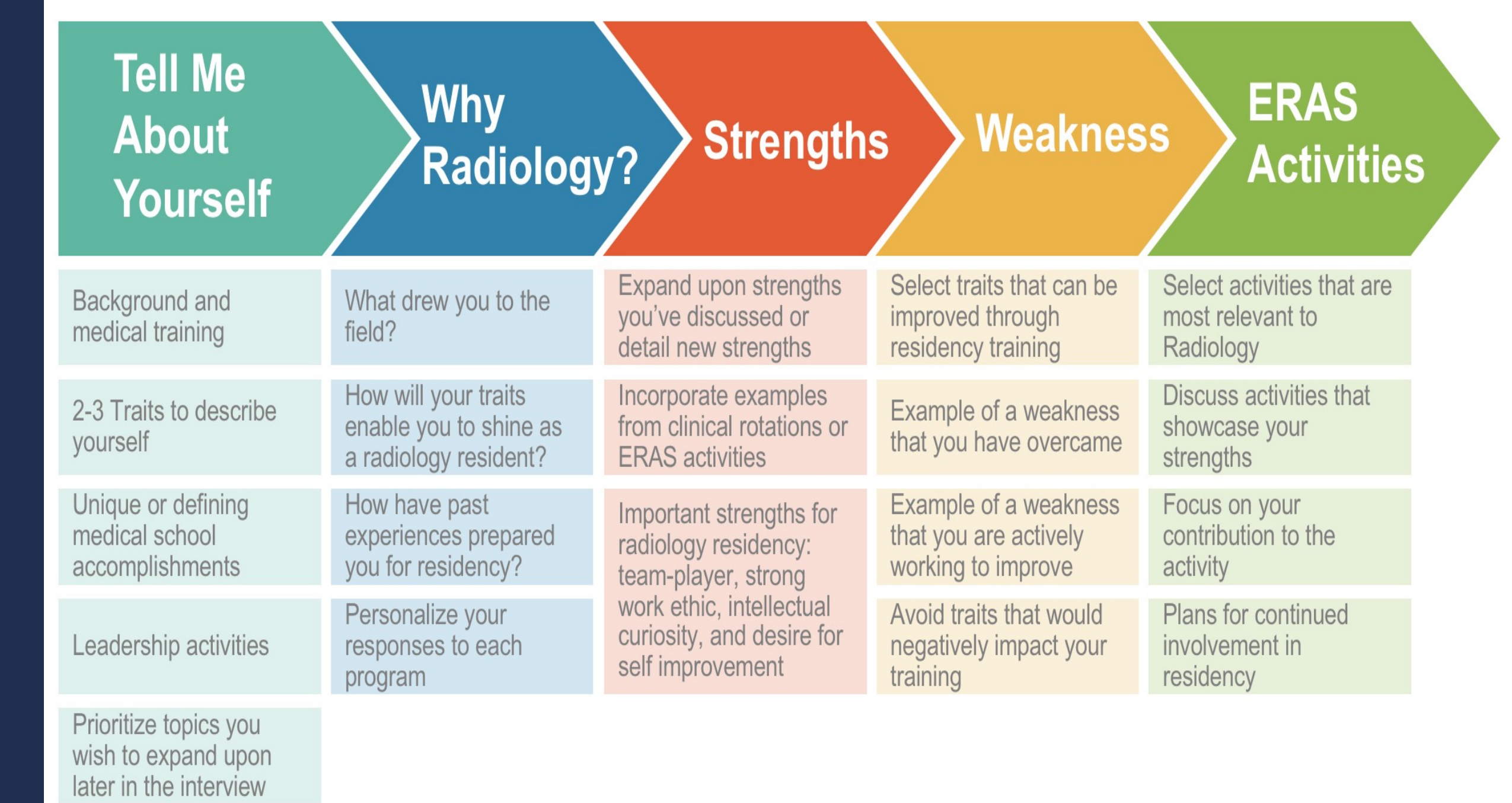
- What are the major strengths of the program?
- If you could change one thing about your program, what would it be and why?
- What changes in the residency program are likely in the next few years?
- What are the most important qualities you seek in a residency applicant?
- What are some of your ongoing research projects?

For Residents:

- What are the major strengths VS. weaknesses of the program?
- Do you feel that you received good training?
- Knowing what you know now, would you still train here?
- Is the program responsive to suggestions for change?
- What changes have taken place since you became a resident here?

Tailoring a question list for faculty and residents helps maximize the amount of information learned on interview day. Faculty can comment on their experiences teaching, the clinical strengths of the program and research mentorship. Residents share a different perspective on learning, clinical experience and research.

Strategy for Radiology Residency Interview Preparation



References

1. Katta R and Desai SP. *The Successful Match: 200 Rules to Succeed in the Residency Match*. 1st Ed. 2009; MD2B.
2. VanOrder T, Robbins W and Zemper P. *Residency Program Directors' Interview Methods and Satisfaction With Resident Selection Across Multiple Specialties*. *J Am Osteopath Assoc*. 2017;117(4):226-232.

