



## INDUSTRY MENTORSHIP: MOCK INTERVIEW QUESTION BANK

The following set of questions is designed for a broad range of built environment professionals, from architects and urban planners to civil engineers and project managers. This kit provides a structured set of interview questions alongside an evaluation form to test a mentee's experience, design thinking, and communication skills.

### Part 1: Professional Question Bank

Tailor your selection of 4–5 questions based on the candidate's focus area and application level.

#### 1. Introduction & Motivation (The Hook)

1. *"Tell me about yourself and what sparked your interest in the built environment."*
2. *"Why are you interested in pursuing a career or further study in [Architecture / Urban Planning / Civil Engineering / Project Management]?"*
3. *"What specific project, building, or urban area in your local region inspires you, and why?"*

#### 2. Experience & Competency (STAR Method Focus)

Encourage the mentee to structure answers using Situation, Task, Action, and Result.

1. *"Can you walk me through a live project or design challenge you completed, such as during PLACED Academy and explain your specific role in the team?"*
2. *"Describe a time when you had to deal with a design constraint, limited time, or conflicting opinions in a team. How did you resolve it?"*
3. *"Give an example of a time you had to present your ideas to an audience or client panel. How did you prepare, and what was the outcome?"*

#### 3. Industry Awareness & Technical Thinking

1. *"What do you think is one of the biggest challenges facing our built environment today (e.g., sustainability, community engagement, transport)? How should professionals address it?"*

2. *"How do you approach site analysis before starting a design project? What key factors do you look at first?"*
3. *"If you were asked to refine a public space that feels underused or unsafe, what steps would you take to gather community feedback and improve it?"*

#### **4. Closing & Engagement (Questions for the Interviewer)**

1. *"What questions do you have for me about working in this sector, our typical project workflows, or career pathways?"*

### **Part 2: Mock Interview Evaluation Form**

#### **Assessment Scoring (1 = Needs Work, 5 = Excellent)**

##### **1. First Impression & Professional Presence (1–5): \_\_\_\_\_**

- Notes on eye contact, body language, confidence, and self-introduction.

##### **2. Communication & Structure (STAR Method) (1–5): \_\_\_\_\_**

- Notes on clarity, conciseness, logical flow, and staying focused on the core question.

##### **3. Industry Knowledge & Experience Integration (1–5): \_\_\_\_\_**

- Notes on awareness of built environment topics, ability to reference live project experience, and PLACED Academy involvement.

##### **4. Questions Asked by Candidate (1–5): \_\_\_\_\_**

- Notes on curiosity, relevance of questions, and active engagement during closing discussion.

#### **Strategic Feedback & Action Plan**

- **Key Strengths Demonstrated:**
- **Areas for Improvement (e.g., pacing, using specific examples, avoiding jargon):**
- **Immediate Action Items Before Real Interviews:**