

THE Q&A

“Today a real worker faces this class. You're not an audience — you're the press. And the press comes prepared.”



YOUR ROLE TODAY: PRESS CORPS

Three lessons of scouting. Now the source: a real person living the life you've been studying. Journalists don't waste a source on questions Google could answer — and after today, neither do you.

PRESS

REPORTER: _____ · DESK (my job family): _____

CONFERENCE JOB (circle one): anchor · desk reporter · quote-catcher · fact-checker · timekeeper

■ QUESTION SURGERY — IS YOURS DEAD OR LIVE?

Your Lesson 3 question comes back today. Run it through the three tests. Fail any test, fix the question:

- 1 **The Google test:** if a search engine could answer it, it's DEAD. Don't spend a human on it.
- 2 **The yes/no test:** if it can be answered in one word, it's asleep. Start it with “what”, “how” or “tell me about”.
- 3 **The so-what test:** would the ANSWER change what you think? If not, why ask?

My question, after surgery:

My follow-up, loaded and ready (“you said _____ — what did that feel like?” works almost every time):

■ WARM-UP — CALL IT: DEAD OR LIVE

Circle the verdict for each. Be ruthless — you'd be spending a real person's time:

"What does FIFO stand for?" — DEAD · LIVE · "What's the moment you knew this job was for you?" — DEAD · LIVE

"How much do haul trucks weigh?" — DEAD · LIVE · "What do you miss most on day 4 of a swing?" — DEAD · LIVE

"Do you like your job?" — DEAD · LIVE · "What's something about your job you'd never put in an ad?" — DEAD · LIVE

■ THE PRESS CONFERENCE — HOW IT RUNS

- 1 **The anchor opens:** welcomes the guest by name, states the class's thanks, hands over for a 2-minute opener.
- 2 **Desk rounds:** each desk asks its best question. One follow-up per desk — use it only if the answer opens a door.
- 3 **Quote-catchers write EXACT words** — quotes are evidence, and "nearly what they said" is not a quote.
- 4 **The lightning round:** quickfire fun — short questions, short answers, no follow-ups.
- 5 **The closer — always the same, always last:** "What do you know now that you wish you'd known at 12?" Then the anchor thanks the guest. Applause is allowed. Encouraged, actually.

■ THE CATCH — FILL DURING THE CONFERENCE

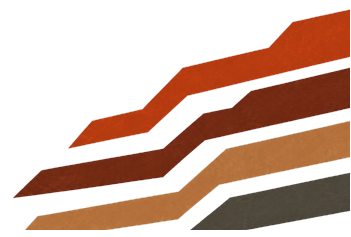
Best exact quote I caught (their words, not mine):

A number they said that we should fact-check: _____ · about: _____

Something they said that NO ad, website or worksheet had told us:

Their answer to the closer — what they wish they'd known at 12:

The follow-up that worked best in the room — whose it was, and what it unlocked:



■ DEBRIEF — THE PRESS ROOM, AFTER

1. The answer that surprised me most, and why it landed:

2. Circle one — hearing a real person mostly made this industry feel: closer to my life · further from it · more complicated · more possible

3. The number our fact-checker flagged — and where we'd verify it (no source, no evidence):

4. True or false, fix it if false: "A good question is one that sounds impressive." ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE · My fix:

■ THE DRAFT — LOCK YOUR FOUR

Next lesson you build your **Job Reality Profile** — the evidence file that ends this unit. Draft day is now. Pick your four careers: two from inside this industry, two from anywhere else in the world of work. Choose ones you actually care about — you'll be living with them all next lesson.

INSIDE PICK 1: _____ · INSIDE PICK 2: _____

OUTSIDE PICK 1: _____ · OUTSIDE PICK 2: _____

My wildcard reason — the pick that would surprise my teacher, and why it's on my list:

The pick I'm most likely to actually chase at 17: _____ · first step toward it:

■ EXIT TICKET — FILED BY THE PRESS CORPS

One sentence I'd put on tomorrow's front page about today's guest:

SKILLS I USED TODAY — TICK WHAT'S TRUE

☐ killed a dead question and built a live one · ☐ caught an exact quote · ☐ flagged a number for fact-checking · ☐ asked a real person a real question · ☐ drafted my four for the Profile

