

You've got an interview: Now what?

the **PARK** method

P the **PROBLEM** or situation
("What happened?")

A the **ACTIONS** you took
("What did you do?")

R the **RESULTS** or outcomes
("What was the result?")

K the **KNOWLEDGE** you gained and applied
("What did you learn? How did you apply it?")

At right is typical behavioral interview question...
and a possible response, using the **PARK** method.

Q: "Tell me
about a time when
you had to deal with
conflict in a group."

A:
"Last semester I was part
of a student advisory board to
my academic department. We were
developing a set of recommendations to
improve faculty student communication. It was difficult
to get the various members of the board to agree on which
recommendations to choose, because everyone wanted
theirs. I focused on helping us look for common elements
between each recommendation. The result was that we
ended up recommending a faculty-student retreat in
which many of the more specific recommendations
were used. Through this experience, I learned
how important it is to really look at things
from the perspective of each team
member."

