WPE CAREERS SERIES

WARWICK PRIVATE EQUITY SOCIETY'S HIREVUE QUESTIONS

A list of video interview questions for incoming Warwick students who want to prepare for one of the hardest parts of finance recruiting.

Prepared by Warwick Private Equity Society's Careers Department

For students starting September 2026

STRUCTURE OF QUESTIONS
Questions are organised by category so you can prepare systematically: motivation, competency, commercial awareness Investment Banking, Global Markets, Private Equity and other finance roles.

START EARLY. STAY ORGANISED. KEEP THE STANDARD HIGH.

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TIPS & TRICKS FOR A SUCCESSFUL VIDEO INTERVIEW

Most firms say you may use AI tools to support your research and preparation ahead of the interview.

During the interview, represent yourself authentically and avoid using AI-generated responses.

The aim is to display your own perspectives, experiences and thought processes. Questions will be similar and return later, so prepare your own experiences viewpoints.

DO

• Do your homework. Research current deals and initiatives before you start.

• Treat it like an in-person interview and dress in business attire.

• Use a tidy, quiet space; reviewers can see your background.

• Check your lighting. Avoid a bright window behind you and harsh overhead lighting.

• Test your camera, sound and internet ahead of time.

• Practise answering aloud before the interview, so your delivery feels natural rather than rehearsed.

DON'T

• Don't use examples involving illegal or illicit topics.

• Don't share interview questions with friends or classmates; everyone should have an even playing field.

• Don't read from notes. Obvious eye movement can distract the reviewer.

• Don't memorise every word. Prepare the content, not a script.

• Don't rush because the timer is visible; a shorter structured answer is better than a fast tangent.

• Don't overuse finance jargon when a simpler explanation would be clearer.

PRACTISE, DON'T SCRIPT

Prepare concise and compelling points for common questions, then practise aloud until the answer sounds controlled and natural rather than rehearsed.

Motivation: Answer → Evidence → Connection. Competency: Situation → Task → Action → Result → Reflection.

For a 90-second answer: ~15 seconds to answer directly, ~55 seconds for evidence or analysis, ~20 seconds to conclude and connect.

COMMERCIAL AWARENESS

01 Tell me about a recent financial news story that interested you.

02 What is the biggest issue affecting financial markets today?

03 What macroeconomic trend are you following most closely?

04 What is your current view on interest rates and monetary policy?

05 How does inflation affect companies and investors?

06 Which economic indicator do you watch most closely, and why?

07 Tell me about a recent market move and what drove it.

08 Tell me about a company you have been following recently.

09 Which sector do you find most interesting right now, and why?

10 Tell me about a recent transaction that caught your attention.

11 What geopolitical development could have the greatest market impact?

12 What risk do you think markets are underestimating?

13 What has surprised you most about markets this year?

14 What market consensus view do you disagree with, and why?

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COMPETENCY & BEHAVIOURAL

15 Tell me about a time you worked successfully in a team.

16 Tell me about a time you demonstrated leadership.

17 Tell me about a time you disagreed with a teammate.

18 Tell me about a time you persuaded someone to change their mind.

19 Tell me about a time you influenced without formal authority.

20 Tell me about a time you worked under significant pressure.

21 Describe a time you managed competing deadlines.

22 Tell me about a time you made a mistake and what you learned.

23 Tell me about a time you failed or faced a setback.

24 Tell me about a time you received difficult feedback.

25 Tell me about a time you adapted quickly to change.

26 Tell me about a difficult problem you solved.

27 Tell me about a time you took initiative without being asked.

28 Tell me about a time attention to detail prevented a problem.

MOTIVATION, PERSONAL FIT & CV

29 Tell me about yourself.

30 Walk me through your CV.

31 Why are you interested in finance?

32 Why do you want to work for our firm?

33 Why have you applied to this division?

34 Why should we hire you?

35 What differentiates you from other candidates?

36 What are your greatest strengths?

37 What is one weakness you are working on?

38 What motivates you?

39 What do you want to gain from this internship?

40 What are your long-term career ambitions?

41 What experience first sparked your interest in finance?

42 What have you done outside your degree to learn about finance?

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INVESTMENT BANKING

43 Why Investment Banking?

44 Why Investment Banking rather than another finance career?

45 What does an Investment Banking analyst actually do?

46 What makes a strong Investment Banking analyst?

47 Tell me about a recent M&A deal that interested you.

48 What was the strategic rationale for that acquisition?

49 Why do companies pursue acquisitions?

50 Why can acquisitions destroy value?

51 How would you value a company?

52 Explain a DCF in simple terms.

53 What is the difference between enterprise value and equity value?

54 How do higher interest rates affect company valuations?

55 What factors would you assess before recommending an acquisition?

56 Which industry would you most like to cover, and why?

GLOBAL MARKETS

57 Why Global Markets?

58 Why Sales & Trading rather than Investment Banking?

59 Which asset class interests you most, and why?

60 Give me your current market view.

61 Pitch me a trade.

62 What is your outlook for interest rates over the next year?

63 Explain the relationship between bond prices and yields.

64 What is your current view on equities?

65 What is your current view on a major currency pair?

66 What commodity market are you following, and why?

67 Tell me about a recent market move that surprised you.

68 How do you balance conviction with risk management?

69 What would you do if a trade moved sharply against you?

70 How would you explain a complex market move to a client?

PRIVATE EQUITY & INVESTING

71 Why Private Equity?

72 Why Private Equity rather than Investment Banking?

73 What makes a company an attractive Private Equity investment?

74 What makes a good LBO candidate?

75 Why is recurring revenue attractive to a Private Equity investor?

76 Why is cash-flow generation important in an LBO?

77 How does leverage affect equity returns?

78 What are the main drivers of returns in an LBO?

79 How can a Private Equity firm create value after an acquisition?

80 If assessing a business for acquisition, what would you investigate first?

81 What role can multiple expansion play in returns?

82 What are the main exit routes for a Private Equity investment?

83 What could make you reject an otherwise attractive investment?

84 Pitch a company you think would make an attractive acquisition.

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ASSET MANAGEMENT, CORPORATE BANKING, WEALTH & CREDIT

85 Why Asset Management?

86 Pitch a stock you would buy today and explain your thesis.

87 How would you identify a sustainable competitive advantage?

88 What would make you change an investment thesis?

89 Why Corporate Banking?

90 How would you identify a corporate client's key banking needs?

91 How do lending and relationship banking work together?

92 How would you assess whether a company is creditworthy?

93 What determines how much debt a company can support?

94 How would you assess liquidity and downside risk in a borrower?

95 What makes someone successful in a long-term client relationship?

96 How would you explain an investment idea to a non-expert client?

97 How would you handle a client who disagreed with your recommendation?

98 How should different risk appetites shape investment advice?