Questions about a specific job or employer.
1. On a typical day in this position, what do you do?
2. What training or education is required for this work?
3. What types of positions are available within this organization?
4. What personal qualities/attributes are important for success in this job?
5. What is the normal work load/routine in your job?
6. What is the demand for people in this occupation?
7. How much travel is normally expected in your job?
8. What part of this job do you find most satisfying? Most challenging?
9. What qualities and skills does your employer look for in new hires?
10. What are the opportunities for advancement within this field/company?

Questions about your contact’s individual career experiences.
1. How did you get your job or into your field?
2. If you could do things all over again, would you choose the same career path for yourself?
3. What frustrations/difficulties do you encounter in your job?
4. What do you especially enjoy about your work?
5. What professional organizations do you belong to? Should I join them now?

Inquires about a career field.
1. What are the basic prerequisites for jobs in this field?
2. What entry-level opportunities are best for learning about this field?
3. How do you see jobs in this field changing over time?
4. What type of training is necessary for this kind of work?
5. What types of training do companies offer people in this field?
6. What are the opportunities for advancement in this field?
7. What are the salary ranges for various positions within this field?
8. What advice would you give someone entering this field?
9. What are the journals and organizations associated with this field?
10. What sort of training and work is expected during the first few years?
11. Is government funding any part of this field?
12. Where, in your opinion, is the best place to look for a job in this field?