

Writing Prompt

Please choose one to respond to prior to your on-site interviews. Some people communicate better in writing, while others communicate better verbally and we'd like to give you an opportunity to do both. We ask that you craft a written response that is **no more than four pages; typical responses are about two pages. Please e-mail it back to me at least 48 hours prior to arriving for your onsite interview in order to make sure the team has time to review.** Written communication is an important part of Amazon's culture and a part of everyone's job in one form or another, so this is an important part of our interview process. We will evaluate your writing on two primary criteria:

Clarity of thought and expression (i.e., did you explain your point well?)

Organization and structure (i.e., does it flow? does it make sense?)

Guidelines:

1. Please clearly indicate the question you have selected at the top of your response.
2. Please respond in narrative form and limit the use of bullets/outline form.
3. Please type your response in rich text format (i.e., MS Word).
4. Please do not include any confidential or proprietary information.

Writing Exercise Questions (pick one):

1. Most decisions are made with analysis, but some are judgment calls not susceptible to analysis due to time or information constraints. Please write about a judgment call you've made recently that couldn't be analyzed. It can be a big or small one, but should focus on a business issue. What was the situation, the alternatives you considered and evaluated, and your decision making process? Be sure to explain why you chose the alternative you did relative to others considered.
2. What is the most inventive or innovative thing you've done? It doesn't have to be something that's patented. It could be a process change, product idea, a new metric or customer facing interface – something that was your idea. It cannot be anything your current or previous employer would deem confidential information. Please provide us with context to understand the invention/innovation. What problem were you seeking to solve? Why was it important? What was the result? Why or how did it make a difference and change things?

It's important that the written response you submit is your own. So, by submitting your response to the written interview question, you acknowledge that it was prepared solely by you. You acknowledge that you did not consult anyone, use any other resource in order to respond, and did not receive any contribution from a third party source. In addition, please be sure you do not share any confidential information that may be protected by your current/past employers. All offers are contingent upon receiving a written response.