ONE THING

INVESTIGATIVE LOGIC
IN INTERVIEW PREPARATION

- **How do you prepare for your next interview?**
- **What is your thought process on how to proceed with the interview?**
- **What type of interview style or method will you use to conduct your interview and why?**
- **What is your reasoning behind the path of your interview?**

These are all questions we must consider as we prepare for an interview. They will play an essential role in determining the investigative logic or reasoning to support our approach. When we prepare and understand the reasons behind the interview, we are in a better position for a successful outcome—an interview designed to obtain actionable, reliable, and truthful information.

Reasoning Methods

Reasoning is the process of using existing knowledge to draw conclusions, make predictions, or construct explanations. There are three basic reasoning methods we all use:

- Abductive Reasoning: reasoning method that deals with guesswork and produces a possible explanation. It is forming a hypothesis or likely explanation.
- Inductive Reasoning: The reasoning method that deals with probability and produces a likelihood based on data points.
- Deductive Reasoning: The reasoning method that deals with certainty and produces a certain truth value.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Basic Reasoning Methods
- Examples of Applied Reasoning
- Interview Preparation
- Shaping the Interview

KEITH ZUPEC, CFI
WZ Instructor

kzupec@w-z.com

@keithzupec

LIVE on Youtube

Join us on the first Friday of every month at 9:00AM Central Time

CONSIDERATIONS TO USING REASONING METHODS

Abductive Reasoning

This is usually a best guess at best. This does not mean our investigation ends here. To avoid premature conclusions and resist confirmation bias, we must exhaust all possibilities. This reasoning method is useful in forming hypotheses. However, it is critical to remain open-minded and to all the investigative findings to reshape your view of the matter under inquiry as the case unfolds.

Inductive Reasoning

This is where we have been given information (or data points) about our particular inquiry, although we are not 100% certain of the outcome. We reason that it is the most likely outcome based on the data points that have been gathered, it is the most likely explanation. Although, we have arrived at a likelihood, we do not have proof. As the investigation continues and we pursue more evidence, we will move closer to certainty.

Deductive Reasoning

This method deals in some value of certainty. Certainty and truths can be very hard to come by. With the certain truths that have be uncovered, we can discern what an outcome was in this investigation.

Sound investigative reasoning involves the blending of these methods to support any theory. By using these three methods in conjunction, you can form your investigative hypothesis. Once you have arrived at a decision, you will then use this hypothesis to strategically plan your interview. This planning can involve crafting empathy statements, determining the order of interviews, and selecting the interview method to be used.

Cautions about Hypothesis Formulation

- Investigative hypotheses are essential
- Never be locked into a first appraisal
- Be aware of biases
- First reports are often flawed and incomplete
- Conclusions are only as good as information based on "connecting the dots"
- Theories are "works in progress"
- Remain flexible and agile
- Adjust theory as new evidence emerges

READY TO PUT IT INTO PRACTICE?

Register for the WZ Masterclass on October 15, 2024 part of Elite Training Days in Chicago
Effective Evaluation of Investigative Interviews