Five Things to Avoid in a Job Interview

Some helpful hints of what **NOT** to do when interviewing for a job. Many people worry about the perfect thing to say or how to ace the first interview, but what many overlook are those small subtle no no's that many are guilty of during interviews.

The top five things you should avoid during an interview.

- **Looking unprofessional:** This is your first and perhaps only chance to make a good impression. If you have a lot of piercing or tattoos, consider covering them up for the interview. An employer might not be as likely to take you seriously if you look unprofessional. Put on a suit or nice pants and collared shirt to complete the professional look.

- **Excessive use of the word "I":** Employers want you to envision you as part of a team. When you use the word "I" too much in an interview, it displaces you away from a team. This subtle play on words could become a turn-off for your future employer.

- **Avoiding eye contact:** This is a major interview no-no. Always make sure to look your interviewer in the face, you will appear more approachable and genuine. If you avoid eye contact, you can come off as in sincere or even a liar.

- **Downplaying your past:** Regardless of your last job, (unless it was illegal) it is important to bring it up on your interview. Be enthusiastic about the parts of the job you liked. Tell about the related skills you learned. Employers want to hire people who enjoy their jobs; they do not want someone who is filling the position just to fill the position.

- **Not paying attention:** It shows that you are un-interested and therefore not suitable for the position. You would want your potential employer to listen and be attentive to your thoughts. Give them the same respect in return.