

GET THE JOB

‘Where Do you See yourself in 5 Years?’

It’s a question hiring managers like to ask. Lots of things might be running through your mind, but “running the place” is not the right answer.

IS THIS A TRICK QUESTION?

It might be, but there is a way to answer it to your advantage.

Sometimes the answer is, “not in this job,” or, “in your job,” or something like, “at a bigger better opportunity elsewhere.” But none of those are things you actually want to say to a hiring manager.

The good news is you can be honest while still telling them what they really want to know. Do you have realistic expectations for your career? Are you ambitious? And does this particular position align with your growth and goals overall?

For example, one way I like to think about it is: Think about where this position could realistically take you and think about how that aligns with some of your broader professional goals.

MORE EXPERIENCED AND KNOW MORE IN FIVE YEARS

So, what if this position is



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not a one-way ticket to your professional ambitions? It’s OK to say you don’t really know what the future holds, but you see how this experience could really help in making that decision.

You might say, “Well I’m really excited by this position at Double Eagle Energy because in five years I’d like to be seen as someone with a deeper understanding and expertise in oil and gas, and I

know that’s something that I’ll have an opportunity to do here.

“I’m also really excited to take on more managerial responsibilities in the next few years and potentially even

take the lead on some projects. I’ve been lucky enough to work with some amazing managers, and so developing into a great manager myself is something I’m really excited about.”