**Mentoring questions**

**Well-structured questions ✅**

1. I struggle with networking due to lack of understanding about how to do it and if I am honest, confidence issues. Is this something that you struggle with? How do you manage that? What do you do when you have to network?
2. I hear a lot of people talk about transferable professional skills… In your experience how would you define this and how have you used your skills to best effect to help you progress
3. The thought of a job interview scares me. I have only had part time jobs but…
4. I’m finding it hard to get my group together for my group project. People will often cancel and they don’t seem committed. How have you worked encouraged people to work together to achieve a team goal?
5. I’m starting a new part time job and feeling quite nervous – it’s an office job and I’ve only worked in the retail shop before. How do you overcome nerves and what did you do to settle in to your first office job? (Business etiquette)
6. I am part of a student society and one of the other members I sometimes feels oversteps the mark with the comments she makes about me and then brushes them away as she’s joking. I’m not good at telling people if they have upset me. How do you share what’s really on your mind with people who are reasonably close to you as friends or at work? (Difficult conversations)

**OK questions/statements that could be better worded 🤷‍♀️**

1. As I come to the end of my degree and I becoming increasingly concerned that what I studied, I don’t want to do anymore, but am worried about other people’s reaction if I tell them and now don’t know what to do next…
2. I have not made the most of opportunity whilst at university… Time is running out for me here and I am worried I am not ready for industry
3. I have heard from my older friends that in job interviews, panel members asking questions can play tactical games and treat you in differently and harshly to test you…
4. I’m thinking of taking a year out after university to travel rather than apply to graduate schemes. My parents are really worried. Can you tell me what I should do? (potential to be a good question by exploring how does the mentor make decisions)
5. I am interested in two big industries I don’t know which one to go for. What should I do?
6. I have visible tattoos which I worry potential employers will hold against me when I’m in an interview. What should I do?

**Not so great questions/starting statements ❌**

*(Silence and staring at floor looking uncomfortable)*

1. Now I am here I am not sure that I need a mentor now
2. I don’t know what to ask you… I had lots of help at the start of mentoring but now it’s down to me I don’t know what to do here now
3. All the jobs I‘ve applied to – I haven’t even got an interview for. Why am I not getting an interview?
4. How do you get a job in x industry?/Can you find a job for me?/help me find a job?
5. How do you find your dream job?