

# Interview Questions to Ask a Natural Language Processing Engineer| Xobin [Downloaded]

We at Xobin reached out to over 70+ Hiring teams to curate the best interview questions. We didn't stop there.

We went ahead to understand what type of answers differentiated the top candidate from the rest. Here is what we've got for you.

**Role-specific skills to look for :** Knowledge of Java, Python, Sentimental Analysis, Natural Language Understanding, and Natural Language Generation.

**Soft skills to look for:** Problem Solving, Analytical, reasoning ability, communication skills, and Team management.

**Pro Tip:** Always screen before your interview. Use [Online Assessment to screen applicants for a Natural Language Processing Engineer](#) position before blocking your time for an in-person interview.

## Compilation of Natural Language Processing Engineer Interview Questions

### Role-Based Interview Questions to ask a Natural Language Processing Engineer



What is NLP?

**Purpose of the question:** The question is designed to check how much the candidate knows about the major portion of the position.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Candidates must be able to describe the functionalities and what are used for.

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What is TF-IDF?

**Purpose of the question:** This is one of the most commonly asked questions in an interview for Natural language processing since it is a crucial function used in this function.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** An ideal answer would include the formula and importance of TF-IDF.

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What do you know about pragmatic analysis?

**Purpose of the question:** This question is designed to understand the candidate's knowledge about the primary functions used in this job position, hence it becomes important for an NLP engineer to know about the same.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Listen for specific terms that explain the pragmatic analysis.

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What do you understand by word embedding?

**Purpose of the question:** Since the term embedding holds a different value as it does otherwise, hence this question is asked to know if the candidate knows about the same.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Pay attention to the specific terms that explain embedding in NSL.

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What are the steps involved in solving an NLP problem?

**Purpose of the question:** Knowledge of the solution of NLP is extremely critical for this function, which makes it important for an applicant to know about the same.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Ideal answer would include the steps involved in the NLP problem.

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Differentiate regular grammar and regular expression.

**Purpose of the question:** The question is designed to test the candidate's knowledge of the basics of Natural Language Processing.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Listen for the specific terms and expressions included in regular grammar and regular expression respectively.

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List the differences between AI, Machine Learning, and NLP?

**Purpose of the question:** The question is designed to verify if the candidate knows about the functions of the job role they have applied for and how it is different from the ones that come under a similar domain.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Candidates must be able to describe the functionalities of all three and mostly by comparing others with NLP.

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How do machines make meaning out of language?

**Purpose of the question:** Understanding how machines interpret language is extremely critical to becoming a Natural Language Processing engineer.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Candidates must concisely explain how machines and languages work together.

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What are some of the Python libraries used for NLP?

**Purpose of the question:** This question is designed to get to know if the candidate has any first-hand experience with the popular libraries in Python.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Top candidates would list out the libraries they have worked with and explain what are they used for.

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Explain any tools for training NLP models that you've worked with.

**Purpose of the question:** This question is designed to understand what kind of tools the candidate has first-hand experience with and their flexibility with different tools.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Top candidates would list out the tools they have worked with, and their functionalities, with the functions they have used them for in their projects.

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## Situational Interview Questions to ask a Natural Language Processing Engineer



Why are you interested in this opportunity?

**Purpose of the question:** This question is designed to understand why the applicant applied for this job and if they fit the company's work culture.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** An ideal candidate would explain motivation and dedication to apply to your company.

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Tell us about your last project - what worked out there and what didn't?

**Purpose of the question:** This question is designed to learn about the analytical skills of the candidate and what is their experience in different required tools.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Top candidates would give an overview of their previous projects and what went wrong and right.

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What is one of the biggest mistakes you did in any of your projects and how did you rectify it?

**Purpose of the question:** Being able to explain and elaborate on mistakes in a project effectively, is a sign of a top candidate.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Look for an analysis of mistakes and how well and fast were they fixed.

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How do you keep yourself updated about the new trends in the industry?

**Purpose of the question:** Being updated with the latest trends in the market is a sign of a top candidate..

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Look for evidence of the understanding of the new trends in the candidate.

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Can you tell us what is something you have learned recently?

**Purpose of the question:** Curiosity and knowledge about new topics is extremely critical for this function

**What to listen for in candidate response:** An ideal answer would describe the reasons for learning the topic and if applied anywhere.

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What is your approach to solving difficult problems?

**Purpose of the question:** This question is designed to learn about the problem-solving skills and approach of the candidate.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** An ideal candidate would answer the question with an example and would elaborate how they overcome the problem.

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Which of the company values/principles is your greatest strength?

**Purpose of the question:** The question is designed to analyze the candidate's skills and to see if they will fit in the company culture.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Look if the candidate's values/ principle fits the companies work culture.

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What influenced you in this career?

**Purpose of the question:** With this question, you can test the candidate's dedication, influence, and self-awareness.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** Listen for the sign of dedication or other skills with which the candidate has achieved the required skills to get a job role of Natural Language Processing engineer.

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Can you tell us about a time you were new to a situation or environment?  
How did you adapt?

**Purpose of the question:** Problem-solving skill is extremely critical for this function and with an example, you can understand how the candidate handles difficult situations.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** The top candidate would show evidence of analytical and problem-solving skills.

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How do you work under pressure?

**Purpose of the question:** The question is designed to understand if the candidate can handle pressure or not and if they can, how they do that. Top candidate would elaborate their time management skills with the help of their past experiences.

**What to listen for in candidate response:** An ideal candidate should be able to work in both situations.

### **Start Optimizing your Natural Language Processing Engineer Hiring today**

Find and hire talent with confidence. If your candidate doesn't know the answer to the above questions and you're hiring for a Natural Language Processing Engineer position, then they're obviously not a great fit.



Prepared and Curated by Xobin Team