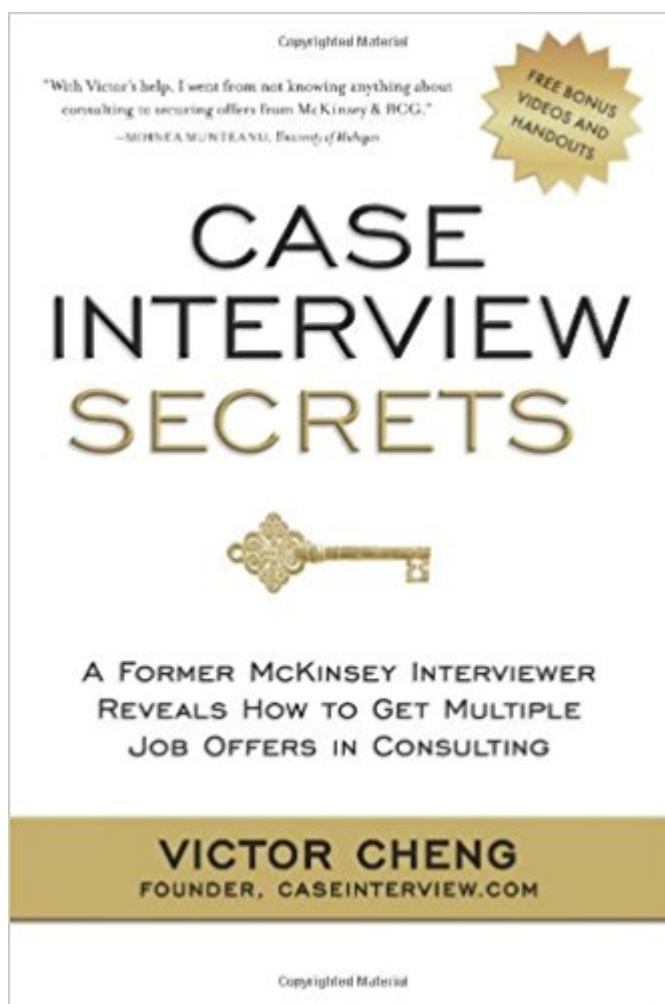


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# Case Interview Secrets: A Former McKinsey Interviewer Reveals How To Get Multiple Job Offers In Consulting



## Synopsis

In Case Interview Secrets, you'll discover step-by-step instructions on how to dominate what many consider to be the most complex, most difficult, and most intimidating corporate job interview in the worldâ "the infamous case interview. Victor Cheng, a former McKinsey management consultant, reveals his proven, insider's method for acing the case interview. Having personally secured job offers from McKinsey, Bain & Company, Monitor, L.E.K, Oliver Wyman, and A.T. Kearney, he has also been a McKinsey case interviewerâ "providing you with a hands-on, real-world perspective on what it really takes to land job offers. Chengâ "s protÃ©gÃ©es work in all the major strategy management consulting firms, including McKinsey, The Boston Consulting Group, Bain & Company, Monitor Company, A.T. Kearny, Oliver Wyman, L.E.K, Roland Berger, Accenture, and Deloitte, as well as in the strategic planning departments of numerous Fortune 500 companies. Whether youâ "re an undergraduate, MBA, PhD, or experienced-hire applicant candidate, youâ "ll discover: What case interviewers really say about you behind closed doors but wouldnâ "t dare tell youâ "until now The subtle yet specific performance differences that separate those who get management consulting offers from those who donâ "t The 10 biggest mistakes candidates make in case interviews (and how to avoid them) The 3 specific things interviewers expect in the first 5 minutes of a case that often decide the outcome on the spot An insiderâ "s take on what interviewers really look for and whyâ "and how to give them what they want

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for Victor Cheng and Case Interview Secrets "With Victor's help, I went from not knowing anything about consulting to securing offers from McKinsey and BCG." --Mihnea Munteanu, University of Michigan "I received six offers--from McKinsey, BCG, Booz, Deloitte, A.T. Kearney, and Marakon. Everything Victor said was right!" --Michael Yang, Northwestern University "Despite having a liberal arts degree from a state school, I landed a dream job with L.E.K. Consulting. Thanks, Victor." --Jackson Boyar, Indiana University "Victor has put me in a very difficult position--now I have to decide between offers from two of the top three consultancies!" --Christopher Perez, The Wharton School "Victor gave me a clear understanding of how to structure a case interview using a highly logical approach. This helped me get offers from BCG and a boutique firm and make it to McKinsey's final round before opting out." --Martin Pustilnick, Boston Consulting Group, Argentina "In my first attempt to break into consulting, I failed every one of my interviews with McKinsey, Bain, BCG, Oliver Wyman, Monitor, Booz and probably a few others. On my second attempt two years later, I followed everything Victor Cheng suggested and took advantage of every resource he provided ... and received an offer from McKinsey!" --Daniel Suo, Business Analyst (Offer Recipient), McKinsey, Stamford "Without Victor's help, I never would have gotten an offer from BCG. What he teaches really makes the difference between getting an offer and not." --Puttipat Tasnavites, Boston Consulting Group, Thailand "After following Victor's guidance, I had a complete breakthrough in my case interview performance and got an offer from Monitor." --Marine Serres, Monitor & Company "As a PhD candidate in engineering, I had an academic background that left me completely unprepared for the case interview process. That's when I found Victor Cheng and ended up getting my dream job. Thank you, Victor!" --Zach Jacobson, McKinsey, New York "Rather than 'teach to the test,' Victor teaches you how to think like a consultant. It's an approach that required me to memorize nothing more than a few simple business ideas yet allowed me to perform well in the case interview regardless of the type of case I received. I could not have gotten my BCG offer without his help. Thank you, Victor!" --Warren Cheng, Boston Consulting Group, Hong Kong "Victor and all his materials on the case interview are by far the best resources on the topic that exist. The combination of Victor's advice and hard work made all the difference for me." --Dmitry Papulin, McKinsey, Dubai "Victor taught me how to prepare both technically and mentally, and this is what makes the difference between him and the competitors. Without his help I probably wouldn't have gotten the offer from BCG. Thank you, Victor Cheng!" --IstvÁjn Mag, Boston Consulting Group, Hungary "Victor is effective because he focuses on behaviors and habits that make you successful and not just on frameworks. With his help, I received a McKinsey Summer Associate offer." --Abhi Patangay, Kellogg School of Management

As a former McKinsey consultant, resume screener, and case interviewer, Victor Cheng mentors thousands of aspiring consultants via his articles and videos at [www.caseinterview.com](http://www.caseinterview.com). As a candidate, he passed 60 cases and received job offers from McKinsey, Bain, Monitor, LEK, AT Kearney, and Oliver Wyman. At McKinsey, he was rated in the top 10 percent of consultants worldwide in his cohort. Today he advises Inc. 500 CEOs.

Case Interview Secrets is practical, clear, and concise. It delivers just what you need to know to nail a case interview. It worked for me and I got the job. Here's how the book helped me. I came across this book just 24 hours before my case interview. I worked through the book and zeroed in on sections I thought were most important for me. I focused most on the frameworks that Victor Cheng presents. I learned the frameworks and created practice scenarios using situations I had experienced. At the end of my preparation I felt very confident that I could lead a case interview conversation. And that is what mattered most. Confidence. Because, of course, in the interview, none of the frameworks exactly applied. But my mind was prepared to think in terms of frameworks. That was really helpful. When I arrived at the interview, I was ready to go to the white board and lead a discussion knowing I had frameworks to draw on. But the book is much more than a set of frameworks. The book also explains how to structure your case discussion. There is specific guidance for creating an opening, analysis, and closing for your case. This gives you a great view of how to create a discussion on-the-fly, which is what you have to do in a case interview. This book delivers the content, and sets your frame of mind, so that you can confidently enter a case interview.

I'm making a career change and have been interviewing for executive level positions in industry. As part of the interview process, I have been asked to solve cases so the interviewer can get a sense for my thinking. Though I have never worked for a management/strategy consulting company, I have a strong business background and extensive educational experience so have been able to give reasonably coherent answers. I realized that I didn't have a good structure or a way to present my thinking in a succinct way. I devoured Case Interview Secrets and immediately saw ways I could apply the concepts Victor Cheng lays out in the book to exponentially improve my approach and presentations during the interviews. Victor Cheng is the real deal, the concepts in this book can be used by anyone running a business to think about problems and to come up with the right questions so he or she can solve problems for their own business and for the customers they serve.

I highly recommend purchasing this book. Victor does a great job at conveying his recommended approach to solving cases regardless of the business situation. I first purchased Case In Point, another popular case interview book and thought it was great as well, though after purchasing Case Interview Secrets. I wish I had only purchased the latter. Case Interview Secrets provides a simple yet thorough process to think like a consultant or business analyst should. Once again, I highly recommend this book.

Victor Cheng heavily touts his customers' results on his website. After reading this book and using his other material, I can see why. Cheng is a former McKinsey associate who has a deep understanding of the case interview process and exactly what interviewers are looking for. He has broken down the components of the interview process as follows: Quantitative assessments, fundamentals, frameworks, candidate-led cases, variations on the candidate-led case, and getting the offer. Unlike Cosentino's "Case in Point," there are only a few frameworks to remember. These frameworks are more flexible than Cosentino's and rely more on the candidate's ability to think and analyze rather than the candidate's ability to memorize a large number of more rigid frameworks. On a personal note, using the tools in this book helped me ace the interview process in a professional field other than consulting. Cheng's suggestion that the candidate practice sharing their thought process in a clear, confident, and concise way is key in demonstrating the candidate's potential value to a firm.

This book is really just a giant advertisement for the author's website. He repeatedly mentions his online program that costs \$300. Most of his guidance here is really vague, and he only gives one major example in the entire book. After reading this book, you'll know just enough about how to successfully answer case interviews to know that you have no idea how to successfully answer case interviews. That'll cost you another \$300.

I started my case practice with other case materials and books, but I always ended up getting "good but not there yet" feedback. After going through this book, the biggest advantage I got was understanding what every piece of case interview means. Why am I supposed to develop an hypothesis early? Why I need to be structured? Why unnecessary delving costs money or "job" in my scenario? and What it means to be a consultant? It really helped me to radically change my approach for case interviews. Instead of mindlessly doing tons of cases, I started spending more time on reviewing the case I did against the benchmark I developed after reading this book. Voila!! I

"understood" what they look for in the interviews. Having a good business intuition and problem solving is one thing, but for a career switcher like me, understanding how to channel and highlight that talent in consulting world is a different beast altogether. If you are just like me then this is the first book you should start with if you decide to pursue consulting as a career. Mind you, this book doesn't have cases for you to practice, but it will provide you a good foundation to think in the right direction to approach a case.

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