Common Mistake (よくある間違い)

Read the article below and see if you can improve it.

下の文章を読んで、改善できる点はないか探してみましょう。

Company: Good. Now please tell me your greatest strength.

Keiko: Tenacity is my strength.

Company: Tell me your greatest weakness.

Keiko: I am too much of a perfectionist.

Company: Please say more about this.

Keiko: Well, I want everything to be correct. And if someone makes a mistake, I get upset easily.

Company: Okay...then how would your friends describe you?

Keiko: My friends? They like me, they like to hang out with me because I'm a lot of fun. I like movies and concerts and um...I’m dependable. I always help them out.

Company: Okay, thanks.
B. Today’s point (今日のポイント)

Check those points with your tutor.

講師と一緒に、以下のポイントを確認しましょう。

When asked to describe your greatest weakness, you don’t actually have to disclose your real weakness. Instead, a standard job interview tactic is to describe something as a weakness, which can be interpreted as a strength.

If you are a recent graduate, you can use your limited work experience as your greatest weakness.

Be sure to back up your statements with concrete reasons and/or examples.

C. Natural Conversation (会話練習)

Read the following sentences with your tutor keeping today’s points in mind.

Today’s pointに注意しながら、以下の文章を読みましょう。

Company: Great...now, would you mind describing one of your greatest strengths?

Keiko: Of course. I would say my greatest strength is my tenacity. Once I am given a task, I remain committed to it until it is completed. In that sense I am very tenacious. I take ownership of my tasks and responsibilities.

Company: Excellent. Now please share with me your greatest weakness.

Keiko: Well, I tend to be a bit of a perfectionist. I am very good at adhering to rules, regulations, deadlines, that sort of thing. So when something happens, let’s say a tight deadline cannot be met, I tend to be very hard on myself.

Company: Okay...and what would your friends have to say about you?

Keiko: My friends would say that I am extremely helpful and dependable. If someone needs assistance, I always volunteer to help. In other words, I work harmoniously with others, and I’m a team player.
D. **Practice** (練習問題)

Answer the questions.

以下の問いに答えましょう。

1. How would your friends describe you?
2. What is your greatest strength?
3. What is your greatest weakness?

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E. **Exercise** (演習)

Do a rollplay with your tutor on the topic below using what you learned today.

今日学んだことを活かして、以下のトピックについて講師とロールプレイングしてみましょう。

In pairs, share your greatest weakness and strength. Choose a weakness that can be easily interpreted as a strength.