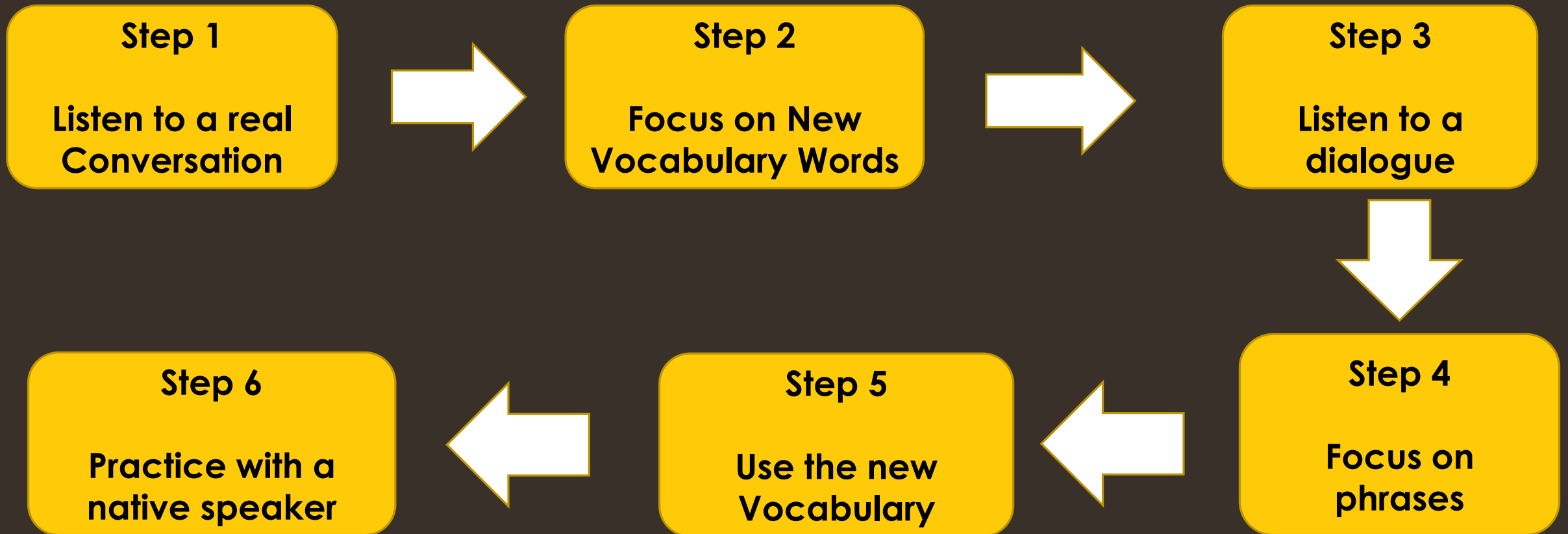




Are You Making These Common American Interview Mistakes?

A Vocabulary Lesson

Our Method



Step 1: Five Common Interview Mistakes



Please listen to audio
step 1: Five Common
Interview Mistakes



Are you preparing for an interview in the US soon? If so, listen to this audio to find out what the most common interview mistakes are so that you can avoid them!

Please open **“Transcript Step 1: Five Common American Interview Mistakes”**

Step 2: Focus on New Vocabulary Words

Generic

Pet peeve

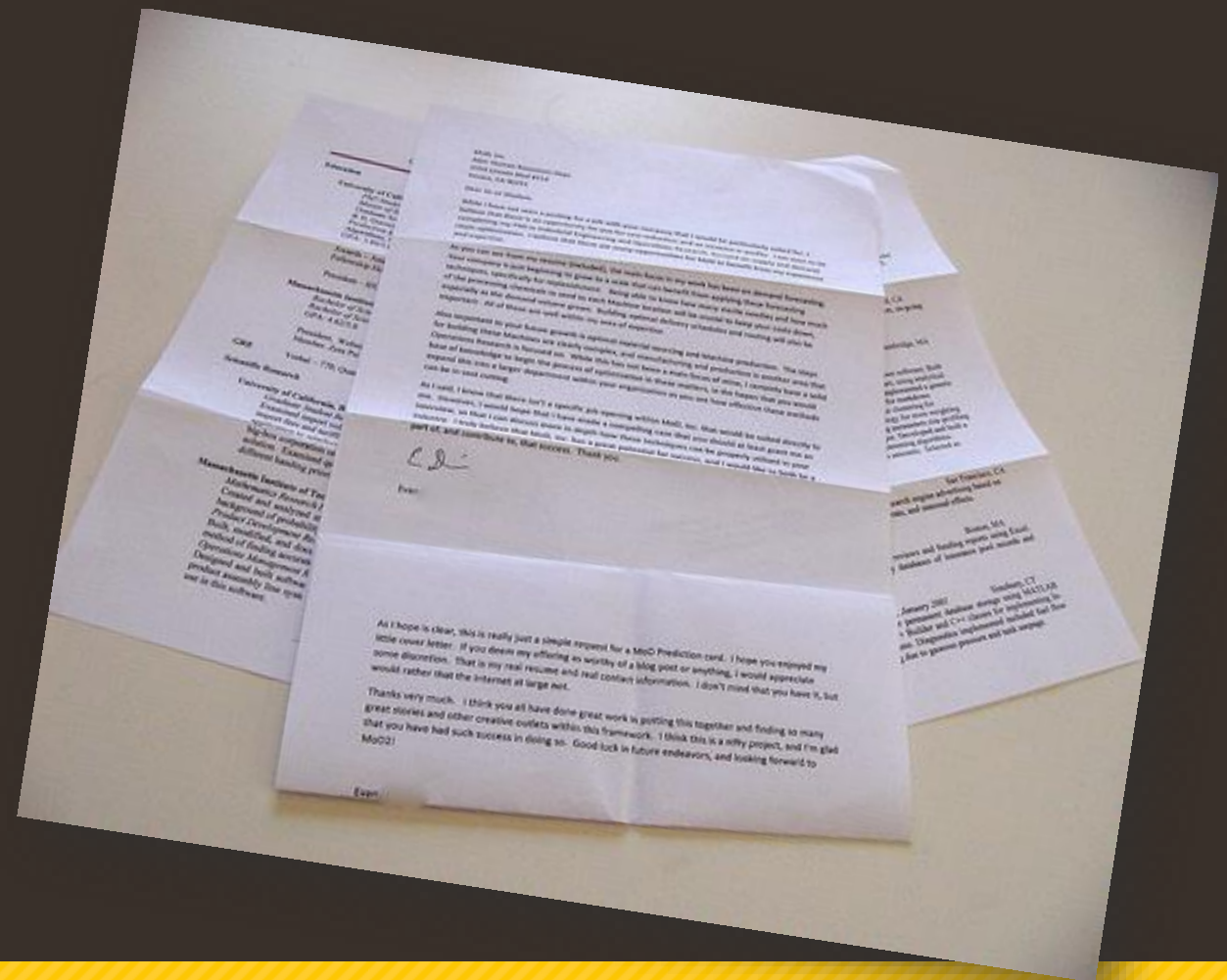
To follow up

Tailored

To stand out

To get
blindsided

Generic adjective

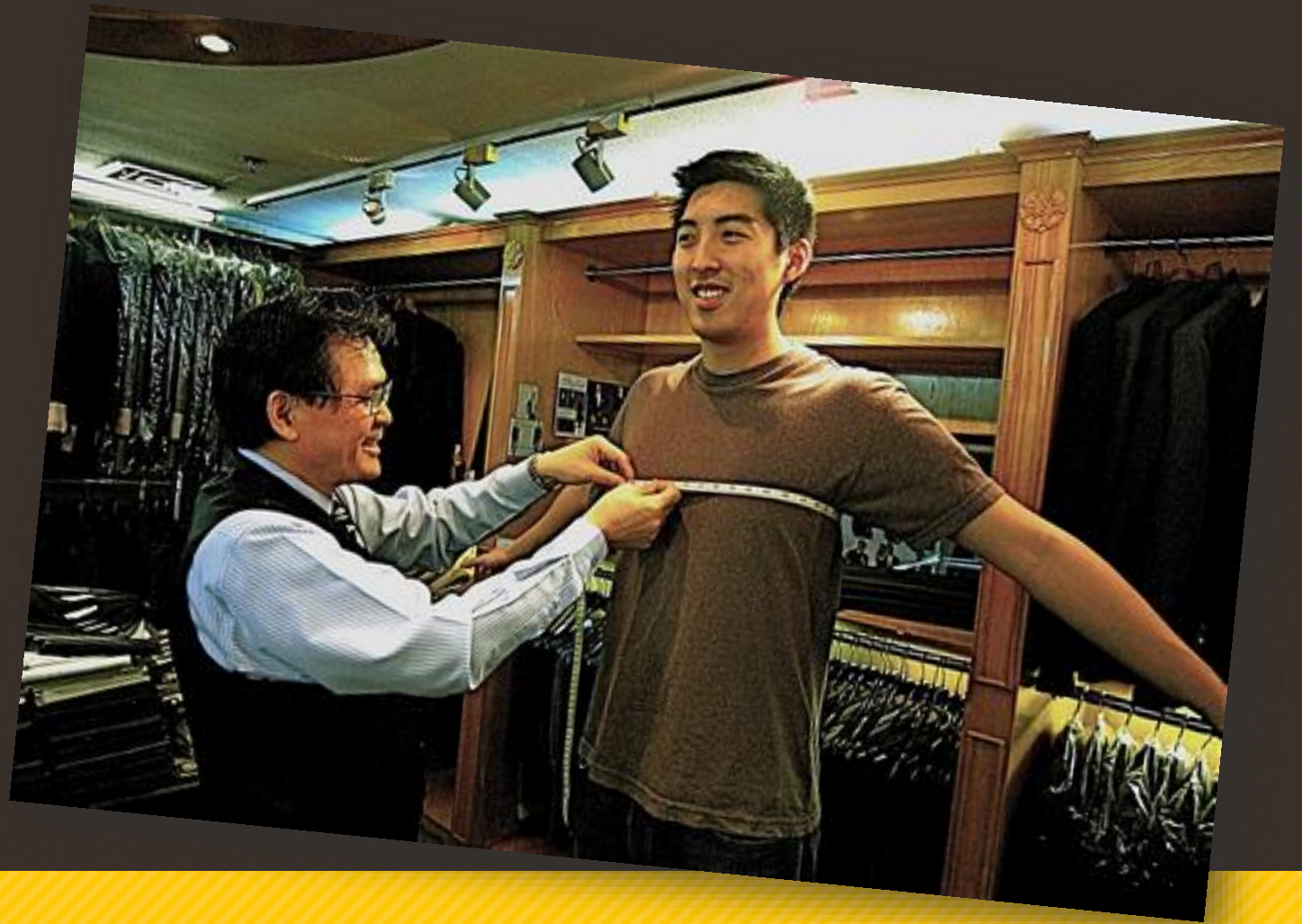


Meaning: Having no distinct or unique quality or application

If you submit a generic cover letter you won't get invited in for an interview.

Tailored

adjective



Meaning: Custom made or shaped for a specific purpose

A tailored resume will always get picked over a generic one.

Pet peeve

expression



Meaning: A frequent subject of complaint

One of my biggest pet peeves is when people have a weak handshake.

To stand out

Phrasal verb



Meaning: To appear different from the group

If you want to get this job, your application has to stand out.

Follow up

Phrasal verb

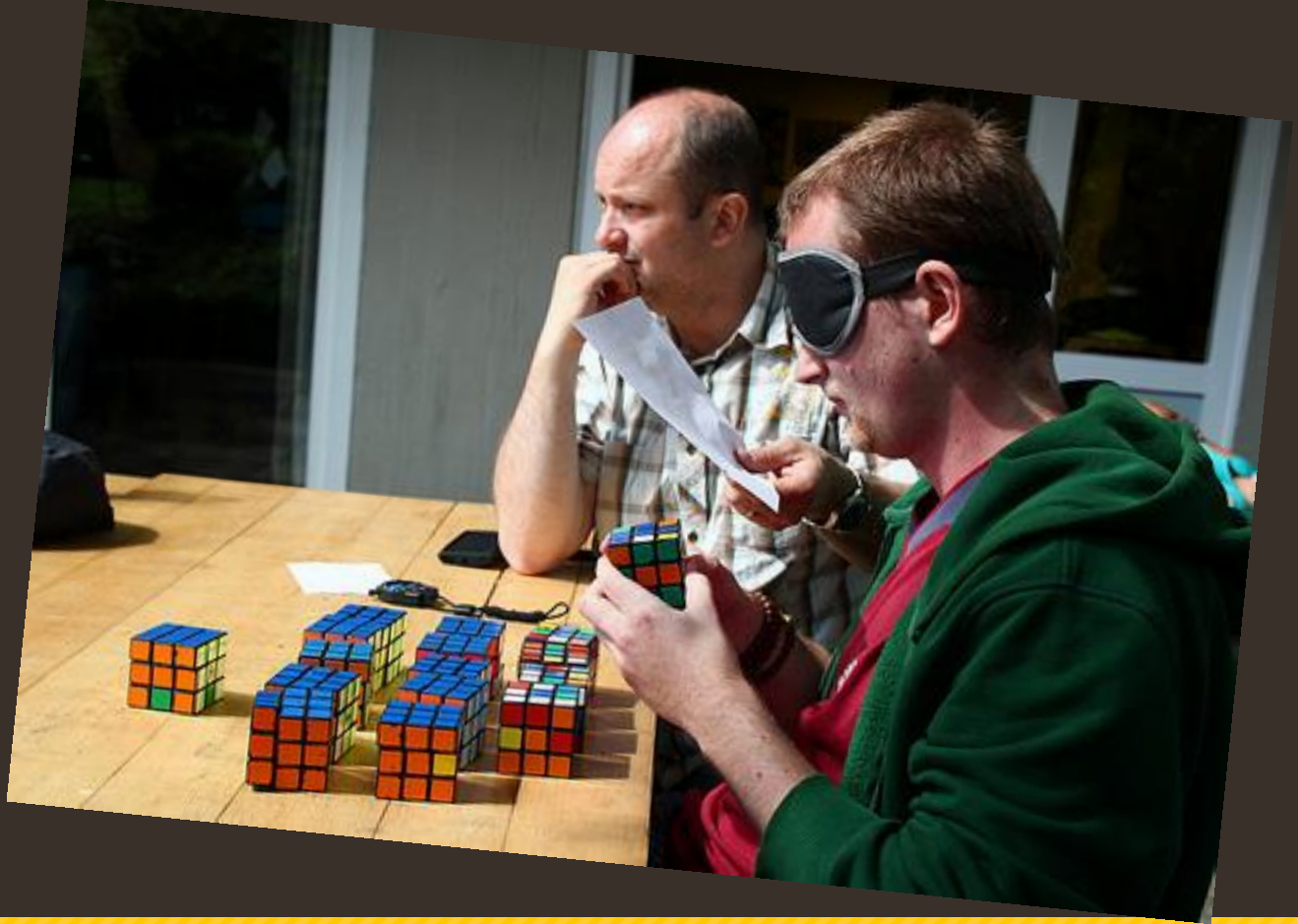


Meaning: To maintain contact in order to continue earlier communication or activities

If you are interested in the job, be sure to follow up after the interview.

**To get
blindsided**

verb



**Meaning: To be confronted with something that you are not
prepared for**

***You don't want to get blindsided with questions that you aren't
prepared for.***

Step 3: The Interviewer's Perspective

Find out what the interviewer thinks when you make the most common mistakes!

Please click on the file
“Audio Steps 3 and 4- An
Interviewer's Perspective”



Step 4: Focus on Vocabulary Phrases

Let's learn the vocabulary in context!

Please open the file called "Transcript Steps 3 and 4- An Interviewer's Perspective"



Bonus! Say It Another Way!

Learn how to say today's
phrases in a few different
ways!

Please click on the link called
“Say It Another Way”



Step 5: Use the New Vocabulary

generic

To follow
up

To stand out

To get
blindsided

tailored

Pet peeve

1. My biggest _____ is when people are impolite to the secretary. (annoyance)
2. If you _____ after the interview, you will have a better chance of getting the job. (get in touch)
3. A great recommendation from someone famous in the field will help you _____ (look different)
4. Do your research before the interview so that you don't _____ (receive unexpected questions)
5. Do you _____ your resume for every interview? (change)
6. Don't respond with _____ answers in the interview. (typical, common)

** Please find answers on credits page*

Prepare Your Vocabulary Cards



To follow
up

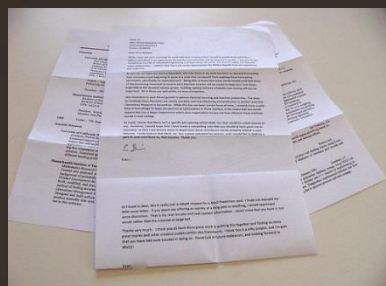
To get
blindsided



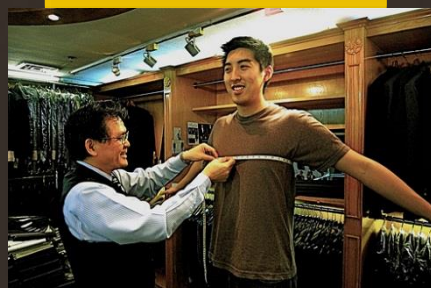
To stand out



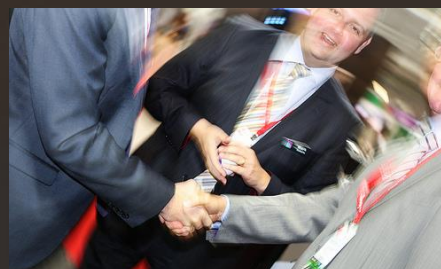
Generic



Tailored



Pet peeve



Step 6: Practice with a Native Speaker!

- Do you normally submit a **generic** resume or do you always try to **tailor** it to the company that you are applying to?
- What is your biggest **pet peeve** when it comes to your career and interactions with your colleagues? What do you think are some **pet peeves** of interviewers (HR professionals) in your country? How are they different from the mistakes that we have discussed in this module?
- Is **following up** after the interview a good way to **stand out** as a job candidate in your country?

Step 6: Practice with a Native Continued

- What are some of the techniques that you usually use to **stand out** in an interview? Do you think that they would work in the US? Why or why not?
- Have you ever **gotten blindsided** in an interview with an unexpected question?
- Please describe any interview experiences that you have had in the US. What mistakes did you make? Why did you make those mistakes?
- Why is it important to have a firm handshake in an interview in the US? What does it signify? Is the same true in your culture? In what other ways is confidence portrayed in an interview in your culture?

Step 6: Practice with a Native Continued

- In addition to a weak handshake, what other nonverbal mistakes are sometimes made in an interview? (eye contact, posture, etc.)

Credits

- 1- stand out: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ripton/>
- 2- generic cover letter: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/67285821@N02/>
- 3- tailored: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/mookies/>
- 4- pet peeve handshake: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cebitaus/>
- 5- Follow up phone call:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/highwaysagency/>
- 6- Blindfolded: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/fw42/>
- 7- Interview: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfbps/>
- 8- Say It Another Way: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/dellphotos/>
- 9- Cover photo- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/dellphotos/>

Step 5 answers:

- 1- pet peeve
- 2- follow up
- 3- stand out
- 4- get blindsided
- 5- tailor
- 6- generic