Professor Karahan

CYSE 368

Cameron Vegas

UIN: 01165727

Reflection Paper 5 - Interview

50 Hours Gained from 3/18 - 4/6

Interviewer & Position: Cameron Vegas - Operations Intern

Inverviewee & Position: Clay Thomas - IT Specialist

Date: 4/6

Question 1: What are the most important knowledge, skills, and abilities needed by someone in this field?

- **Answer:** "I believe there are a lot of important knowledge, skills, and abilities required; such as strong technical expertise as this enables me to design, develop, and implement complex IT solutions that meet the unique needs of my clients. Problem solving skills is another big one, being able to think creatively, adapt to changing situations, and prioritize tasks based on their importance and urgency is vital. Excellent verbal and written communication skills and the ability to tailor my message to my audience is a bonus."

Question 2: What would good entry-level jobs to reach the position of an IT Specialist?

- **Answer:** "There are several entry-level jobs that can help someone be where I'm at now. Some of these jobs may include roles such as help desk technician, technical support specialist, junior network administrator, or computer repair technician (Which I started off as). Pursuing relevant certifications and continuing education can also help someone gain the knowledge and skills needed to advance in the IT field. It's important to continually learn and stay up-to-date with emerging technologies and industry trends to be successful in this field."

Question 3: What are the most difficult aspects of your positon and why?

- **Answer:** "There are several challenging aspects of this profession that can make it quite difficult at times. One of the most significant difficulties is keeping up with the constantly changing technology landscape. New technologies and frameworks are emerging at a breakneck pace, and it can be a daunting task to stay up-to-date with all of them. It requires a lot of self-motivation, continuous learning, and experimentation to stay ahead of the curve. Cybersecurity is a massive concern in today's digital age, and we must always be vigilant to protect their organization's systems and data which can bring a lot of stress at times."