In order to make the best impression for my job interview, I would be wary of my non-verbal behavior. Non-verbal behavior is the type of communication that does not involve speaking, instead it includes facial expressions, body language, touching, voice patterns, and interpersonal distance. This type of behavior reinforces spoken words, tone of voice, eye gaze, hand gestures, and body positions. For example, people who walk faster are perceived as being happier and more powerful than those who walk more slowly. This type of behavior is so critical to the perceptions we have, that we frequently rely more on non-verbal than verbal behavior in making judgments about others. Therefore, if I were given an interview for my ideal job, I would ensure my facial expressions and body language is positive and allow my possible future employers to know I will bring positive and productive energy to the work setting.

Another key component in determining the perceptions we have of others is threat-level. One of the key components we determine about someone when we perceive them is whether that person poses a threat to our well-being. Research shows that we may dislike or experience negative emotions about people if we feel they are likely to harm us, just like how we feel positively if we feel they can help us. Based off of this information alone, I would communicate all my verbal expressions and tones in a non-threatening safe manner.

Furthermore, it is not solely danger that can make my future employers disinterested in me, the second component in how we determine perceptions is facial expressions. It was seen in one example, that students were faster at identifying a single angry face among eight happy ones, than they were at identifying a single happy face among eight angry ones. Angry and threatening faces quickly popped out from the crowd, rather than when people had neutral expressions. Not only that, but research indicates that the brain is hardwired to detect negative behavior, since we do not interact with “bad guys”, or people who can harm us. This is because negative information weighs more heavily on the brain.

This research and proof alone, would make me once more try to bring a positive energy to the work place setting, and not reveal angry or aggressive facial expressions, but deal with situations in a diplomatic manner. Another impression I would attempt to reveal is an honest one. If my future employers perceive me to be a liar, I would be sure not to acquire my dream job. Therefore, I would be sure not to provide any cues that would make me seem to be a liar. Overall since, liars make more negative statements, appear more tense, provide fewer details in their stories, give accounts that are more indirect and less personal, take longer to respond to questions, and give brief responses to questions, I would be sure not to reveal any of those cues in order so that my future employers know I am an honest worker.

Finally, the last perception I would give to my employers is a warm one. The particular dimension warm versus cold makes a large difference in how we perceive people, and these are known as central traits that have a strong influence on our impressions of others. This leads to the conclusions, that if you would like someone to like you, be friendly, nice, and interested in what they say. In other words, despite all the other possible personality traits others may have being warm hearted and spirited can allow for others to appreciate you, since it once more evolutionary means you are not a threat and that you are also someone that is willing to provide support.

Our person perception assists us in making an accurate and informal judgment about how other people are possibly going to respond. For an important job interview that I really wanted I would make to that my presents leaves a prominent reminiscence.

Being an African American male applying for high position where color is not common I need to go beyond what my skills and resume showcase. Because one of the mental processes we use is social categorization. Since physical cues play a profound role in a person's perception I would make sure to have a nice outfit and
clean cut, to keep the idea early on that I maintain a descent style. I would also highlight my key skills I have early because salience of the information one grasps tends to be the most focused and remembered.

In addition to nonverbal perception I would keep a warm and welcoming demeanor. I would enter with a smile and attached with a firm handshake. During the conversation I'd keep locked eye contact and socially acceptable facial responses such as nodding and agreeing with the interviewer's comments and responses.

From verbal and responsive perspective, my attitude and tone would be positive. My diction and sound of my voice would shoot out a sound confident and sense of promise. This will result in constructing trust and respect from the start. Thus leading to a wholistic perspective of assurance and comfort for both of us.

Overall, I would present myself with welcoming and positive behavior. The reason why one would start and maintain this is early on and consistently throughout is because of the halo effect, where one is judged greatly on the first appearance by processes of social categorization. This essentially concludes your overall evaluation to the prospectors.

Antonio Godoy

Q2. Attribution theory is all about how we make judgments about the CAUSES of our own behavior and that of others. In the language of Attribution theory, how do you explain the causes of terrorism? How do these attributions shift from "actor" to "observer"? How do "biases" in attributions factor in?

One method which we can utilize to view the causes of other individual's behavior, is by viewing their actions. For example, if an individual leaves a large tip, this is an indication of the person's generosity. The process of attempting to determine the causes of people's behavior is known as causal attribution. In causal attribution, a personal attribution is made when it was decided that the behavior was caused by the person. However, if we feel a behavior was caused by a situation, this is deemed as situational or external attribution.

There are three core principles of attribution. The first core of attribution is covariation. In covariation, a given behavior is caused by the situation, and this is proven if the behavior changes across the situation. The next attributable factor is consistency. How consistent is this behavior in this individual every time the situation arises. Finally, the last method in which attribution can be derived is from consensus information. In consensus information, a situation creates the same behavior in most people. Therefore, one type of situation causes the same behavior in others.

The causes of terrorism, can be best exemplified by analyzing the group ISIL. The Islamic Group ISIL, is a terrorist organization currently wreaking havoc and abusing human rights in the Middle East. To analyze ISIL in attribution theory, the situation must be first analyzed through covariation. In terms of the situation, ISIL has rose to prominence because of the lack of power currently within Syria. It is this vacuum that has paved the way for Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi to rise to prominence and establish terrorism throughout the entire region. Furthermore, to explain these terrorist actions, ISIL has also attempted to install religious radicalism and is consistent in its goal of establishing religious, political, and military authority over all Muslims worldwide. The terrorist acts by this group are solely theirs, as there is a consensus that no other groups do the heinous crimes they do. ISIL has committed numerous human rights abuses including persecuting religious and minority groups, having child soldiers, attacking members of the press, crucifixions, etc.

The actor/observer bias is indicative of the fact that ones actions can be perceived much differently depending
on whether the individual perceiving is an actor or observer of the behavior. If the individual is an actor of the behavior, they will blame the situation in greater likelihood, than if they were the observer, in which case they would blame the actor for his own personal shortcomings. This can be easily viewed with ISIL, because their actions in their own perspective are actions that are benefitting themselves and the Islamic Caliphate, while from an observer’s stand point, their actions are clearly against human rights.

Michael Hadi

Q2. Attribution theory is all about how we make judgments about the CAUSES of our own behavior and that of others. In the language of Attribution theory, how do you explain the causes of terrorism? How do these attributions shift from "actor" to "observer"? How do "biases" in attributions factor in?

Terrorism continues be a primary threat to the world, we can understand terrorism and their identity on a wholistic through psychology and attribution theory. Although there is a great amount that we don’t understand or have misinterpreted there’s a cause and effect for everything.

These groups usually commit massive inhumane crimes in a self-attribution manner. For example, these groups and individuals cause harm and destruction to others and tell themselves that they are performing good deeds. These groups also tend to involve religion to justify the situation of their crimes as well.

Many believe that that these groups are unmoral and unconsciously violent, but they’re always another perspective. The self-serving bias theory suggests that one blames others when situations go wrong, but highlights themselves when the situation flourishes. One main idea about major terrorism groups is that they don’t blame anyone nor themselves when situations spiral out of control. The groups are very blunt about their activity. In addition, group-serving bias plays a profound role in our perception on terrorist groups. For example, blaming and narrowing the perspective only about the enemy or the rival’s activity to propaganda and increase patriotism.

Our attribution skills play an immediate role in how we perceive things as well as how others perceive us on a micro and macro scale. It is important that one has all the logistics and data before concluding and labelling a group or situation. It is also critical that both perspectives are understood along with causes and effect.

Antonio Godoy