Round 1: Aptitude and Coding round

Aptitude was quite hard for me. It was split into Quantitative, logical reasoning and verbal. Verbal is easy enough if you have done closet test taught by Bizotic team. Passages looked tricky but if you read thoroughly, then the next four-five questions become easy.

Quantitative and logical reasoning were hard. They test your in-depth math skills and the approach you put in solving questions. Some part of it was covered in Bizotic, but for others a little core knowledge in required.

It also had negative marking, such that if you answer 25% questions wrong in any section, 50% marks will cut for every next wrong question. So be careful of how many questions you answer.

For me personally, apti was quite hard, I don't even think I answered half of those questions, but coding round was quite good.

In coding round, we had two parts. Part 1 was MCQ of Data Structures, DBMS and other general coding questions. Part 2 was coding, where two problem statements were given and we have to write a code in any language.

Read the code carefully and start typing. Make sure you practise coding on **Hackerearth** and **Hackerrank.** Not just because of the practise, you will also be familiar with the coding environment, as most companies will use such platforms only. Also choose the language that you are most familiar with.

Round 2: Ask me anything

This is a round where you will face a couple of directors, either online or offline, and you can ask them questions. This round you will attend as a group of 10 or something like that and you will be judged on how actively you participate.

This round will probably be for 15 minutes max. So make sure you ask at least one question. Don't try to spam questions on them just because you have to. Ask few questions but relevant.

Important tips

- Don't try to be too eager to ask questions. Let others speak as well, then you can raise your hand and ask. Strictly avoid interrupting while someone is speaking
- Don't sit too comfortably. Maintain proper posture, listen intently and pay attention to everyone else's questions.
- Try asking the first question. There's usually some hesitation in asking the first question. Take advantage of that, it shows initiation.

Round 3: HR Interview

For me, this interview was very chill. He won't ask anything technical, so just be yourself. The interviewer will likely test you with scenarios where you have to choose. Don't worry about them too much, he/she is only trying to test you.

I had a lot of hobbies listed in my resume and a couple of them involved content creation. So he asked me, if an opportunity comes, while I am working at Falabella, where I can make a career out of creating content, would I take it. Answer these questions carefully.

Prepare for such questions:

- Tell me about yourself. (Very Important. Try not to drag it too much. Speak for 2-3 minutes, talk about your professional life and your personal life.)
- What are your short and long term goals?
- Choice based questions (Like mentioned above)
- Do you have any questions for me?
- (If you are in a non-CS/IS background) Why are you interested in a job outside your branch?

Try to be confident and calm. The interviewers are usually very friendly.

Round 4: Technical

The most important round. This will last for 45 minutes to 1 hour. It could take longer if the interviewer wants to dig deeper into your resume (my case). Try not to put too much into your resume. Even if you know 70% of it, I would recommend not to mention it into your resume, as it will give the interviewer

more targets to hit. Study your projects thoroughly, you have to be extra careful if you have put AI/ML related projects.

I was initially asked about my projects. One of them involved Machine Learning so he asked me about the algorithm I used and why I used it. Later he asked me about Time Complexity and Linked Lists. I had mentioned in my resume that I know only the basics of Data Structures so he didn't ask me too many things. Object Oriented Programming is a must, as he asked me the entire thing. Don't follow bookish knowledge too much. You should explain in such a way that anyone else can understand those concepts.

Later comes the programming part. Interviewers want to know how you approach a problem. So, even if you have written the correct code, then it doesn't mean that he will be impressed by it. He will ask you to find a better way, if it exists. The best thing to do here, is to follow your gut. While preparing, practise simpler codes first, then go on to trickier codes. They won't ask you complicated programs. They will keep it simple.

From what I heard from fellow candidates, these programs were asked frequently,

- All types of sorting and searching algorithms (with their time complexity).
- Anagrams (Different words with same letters)
- Reversing a string, and other string methods' related programs.
- Print the smallest number, second smallest number, etc
- Arrays related questions. (Concentrate on them)

The interviewer will most likely start from basic programs and increase the level of questions further. If you can't find a solution, then its okay, he only wants to see your approach.

Also,a as you are thinking about the logic, make sure you speak out loud, so the interviewer will understand your thought process. So even if you can't execute a code, he'll understand what you tried to do.

If you don't know the answer, but know something related to it, then try beating around the bushes, he will most likely guide you to the answer.

Most importantly, be confident and don't look grim, even if you are nervous.

Note: For me, there were no eliminations. Every candidate had to go through every round. Results were announced at the end. Good luck 😊