

REACTO

(Whiteboard) problem solving technique

LOGISTICS

- Random pairs of 'interviewer' and 'candidate'
- Interviewers study problem night before
- IA presents problem to interviewers *15 min*
- "Interview" time *30 min*
- Problem solution/review *15 min*

WHITEBOARD

- **Technical interviews often involve a whiteboard (or an autocomplete-free text editor like Google Docs)**
- **Why?**

R e s t a t e

E x a m p l e s

A p p r o a c h

Notice how far down this is

C o d e

T e s t

O p t i m i z e

RESTATE

- **Rephrase in your own words (diagram if useful)**
- **And/Or ask questions**
- **Keep going until you understand the problem**
- **Leads very naturally into...**

EXAMPLES

- **Representative input and output**
- **Consider edge cases**
- **Consider errors**
- **Write them down**

APPROACH

- **Come up with at least one *conceptual* solution**
 - identify pros and cons
 - make simple, broad optimization choices here
- **Don't code!**
- **Show you can communicate**
- **Use this time to plan (crucial)**

CODE

- **Start at top left (if whiteboard)**
- **Write small**
- **Minimal indenting**
- **Minimal line spacing**
- **Breadth first**

TEST

- **Use Examples**
- **Be the machine**
- **Leads into...**

OPTIMIZE

- **How is it now?**
- **Count the steps (maybe during Tests)**
- **Consider the “space” necessary**
- **Consider time complexity (big O)**
 - efficiency of an algorithm
 - performance at scale.
- **How could it be more optimal?**

FINAL THOUGHTS

- **Think of the interviewer as a collaborator**
- **Enjoy it!**