

Wolters Kluwer Data Engineer Interview Guide – Experienced 3+

Round 1: Technical Interview – SQL

1. Introduction:

- The interview began with a standard introduction. I was asked to share my background, current role, and experience in data engineering.

2. Project Discussion:

- The interviewer then shifted to a discussion of the projects I have worked on, specifically the data systems, pipelines, and technologies I have used (e.g., Snowflake, Spark). Be prepared to explain the details of your past projects clearly.

3. SQL Questions:

- **Window Functions:**

I was asked to work with a dataset and produce the output using various window functions such as ROW_NUMBER(), RANK(), and PARTITION BY. The interviewer wanted to assess my familiarity with window functions and how I can apply them in real-world scenarios.

- **Joins with Complex Data (NULL Handling):**

The next question involved predicting the output of SQL joins (e.g., INNER, LEFT, RIGHT) on a dataset containing values like 0, NULL, and 1. I needed to explain how different joins would treat NULL values and ensure I understood the nuances of these operations.

- **CASE WHEN Statement:**

A medium-difficulty problem asked me to implement a CASE WHEN condition. This question tested my ability to write conditional logic directly in SQL.

Example:

Round 2: Technical Interview - Resume & SQL Stress Test

1. Introduction & Project Discussion:

- In this round, the discussion began similarly with an introduction and a more detailed project discussion. The interviewer asked for deeper insights into my previous work, especially focusing on the technologies I mentioned on my resume.

2. Resume Stress Test:

- **Stress Round:**

The second part of this round focused on testing my stress management. The interviewer took a "stress-testing" approach by going through my resume line-by-line, asking detailed questions about each project and skill. At times, it felt intense, as the interviewer probed deeply. However, the goal here was not to catch me off guard but to evaluate how well I can handle pressure.

Tip: Keep calm, clarify your answers, and if you don't remember something exactly, don't hesitate to explain your thought process or knowledge of related topics.

3. SQL Cross Join Question:

- **SQL Complexity:**

The final part of the round involved a difficult SQL question based on a CROSS JOIN. This join type produces the Cartesian product of two tables, meaning every row in one table is paired with every row in another. The interviewer gave me a problem involving this join and helped me walk through it step-by-step.

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