What I learned – Interview Phase – Week 1

This is the beginning of a new phase called the interview phase, which will consist in learning new concepts, training with coding questions, writing our CV and practicing behavioural and interview skills, all of this to prepare us for an interview with one possible client that could hire us.

Since I started to go in the path of programming, I have always felt intimidated by the tech companies who interview people the way we are practicing to get interviewed. Actually, to enter the actual program I had an interview with a coding question, I am unsure what was the difficulty, although since I managed to answer it vaguely correct I think it wasn't supposed to be hard.

Now that I have been reading "Cracking the coding interview" I am learning a lot of things, like what you can do during an interview which are okay to do, show or talk about, as well what is expected of me and that sometimes answering the coding question 100% correct is not everything you are evaluated on. All of this gives me a big picture of what it is like and has made me feel calmer towards our final interview.

One of the most important things I have learnt while reading the book, was about Big O notation, which by now I can describe for what it is used for (measuring the time and space it takes a piece of code), and how can you determine in terms of O() how long would it take your code to run. Although, I am still looking into a variety of problems, in order to understand it better, because I struggle with some cases. Right now, I still struggle to understand how to get the amount of space the code uses, but I am learning about it.

On this week I also had an evaluation interview on technical knowledge, about data structures, computer hardware, JS and Python (which are the stacks I chose to pursue), and other topics. This was to evaluate me on how I stand now, and how much knowledge I miss, in order to be apt to be interviewed by a client. I didn't know a lot of questions, but I started to search for the answers during the week, and I end up learning about: processors, agile methodologies, has table and functions, algorithms, cipher and hashing, OOP pillars, arrow functions, prototype in JS, and others.

Since I still lack knowledge I will try to make a plan of study and have a daily session of learning new things that aren't in our plan of the phase, this way I can learn new terms, right now I have some courses which I am doing about JS, CSS and HTML, which right now will be my stronger stack.