Nutanix SRE role

This role is strictly non-coding round , it is more related to troubleshooting , cloud, debugging and networks , so if you are one of the person who doesn't like coding this can be a good option.

Topics to prepare –

NETWORKS

LINUX

CLOUD COMPUTING

OPERATING SYSTEM

VIRTUALIZATION

BASIC HARDWARE

ROUND 1 TECHNICAL

The first round is an online MCQ based test around 50 questions in 60 minutes, topics were the same as above.

Protocols , Linux command syntax , terms, full forms , basic hardware storage device ,IPv4 IPv6 ,

terminologies in Operating system . Some basic True False , some were more than one correct.

Go through Sanfoundary website questions of the same topics that helped me a lot.

Out of 200 around 40 students were selected for the next round.

ROUND 2 TECHNICAL INTERVIEW

The interview round of Nutanix are very good , they ask in depth questions and practical simulation and scenario based to check whether you really know the concept.

Introduce yourself

I was asked about linux first , chmod command varaitions in it , R (recurssive) command , what is shell , where are the ip addresses stored in human readable form in linux .

difference between http and https (make sure you know how https works)

some scenario based question on SSH

Questions on virtualization like can the guest machine have more memory than the host machine how

networking commands like PING , traceroute , ipconfig not direct connected it with scenario based question.

NTP (network time protocol) I was not aware of this so I straightforward told .

some question related to DHCP

difference between HDD and SSD

Have you done virtualization anywhere ?

Basics of cloud what will you do when there is a crash in your system basically troubleshooting

What is your primary goal in life

Tip : Make basics Strong so even if you don't know a question you can frame its basics around it.

I was selected for this round

ROUND 3 TECHNICAL INTERVIEW ROUND

My first round was a good round since I was able to answer almost all questions and those I did not know i said I am not aware of it , this helped me from creating unnecessary confusion in mind. for me third technical interview round was skipped and I was directly sent to HR round .

Round 4 HR Round

This was my first offline interview and was most amazing , the person interviewing was from the support team of NUTANIX .

Introduce yourself , your family background , why choose engineering , why come computer science , why not go for masters , what is the other thing you would like to do other than this job

Standard HR round questions this you can find on interviewbit.

Some situation based questions to analyse your realtime ability to think of solution (real-life not from syllabus)

They want to know you as a person so be honest and humble

Explain OSI model to a person who never heard of networks

One of my project was on AWS so they asked questions related to that and asked me to draw a high level – architecture of it .

They asked why not development and why SRE .

Troubleshooting of system , A printer is not working properly how will you troubleshoot same goes for a coffee machine

This round was quite satisfying , I answered with a good confidence and created a good communication with them .

This year Nutanix was there to hire an intern to convert for the SRE role on my Pool campus. I was not offered but was one of 8 students who reached the director round finally 5 were shortlisted among a total of almost 600. I am writing this so that my other friends can get to know about the experience and questions they would face during the entire process and avoid mistakes I did in the process. I Hope my article Benefits all and increases your chances to be hired.

There Were a total of 4 rounds.

Important to know:

Before going forward let me tell you This is for Non coding role ..and no DSA questions will be asked here.

The Topics asked will be from Computer Networks, Operating System , Linux environment , Hardware and Virtualization..

I would strongly recommend to read basics of cloud computing and Hypeconvergence as this is what Nutanix does and will be alot helpful in the process.

Coming back to the process.

Round 1:Technical Round

60 Mcq in 60 Mins.topics Networking, OS, Logical reasoning, and aptitude. And Virtualization and Linux.

The difficulty level was mid-hard…

I would suggest reading each topic in detail as the questions were versatile and in-depth.

Go through the Sanfoundary questions of the same topics that helped me a lot.

only 105 students crossed this round out of 600. and were invited for a technical interview the very next day.

Round 2: Technical Interview

This round was really a good round and most candidates were eliminated here..

this was one of the best interviews I had till date.

Questions were hard and engaging. The interviewer was very supportive and engaging.

Their questions were on various topics and each question had a follow-up question so make sure you know each topic in detail.

Also in this round, I was asked what do I know about Nutanix. Make sure you know what is Hyperconvergence.

I would refer To go through the Hyperconvergence page at NUTANIX.com that explains a lot of what they do and how.

questions were on different Osi Layers, protocols in those layers. Port number of that protocol. Read the OSI model in detail along with all protocols involved and what happens at each layer.

The next most asked topic was Linux commands their full form and even at which layer in OSI those commands are executed.

Also read the basics of Linux like bash, shell, etc. I would recommend interview bits top 50 questions on Linux.

Questions on cloud-like imagine a data center and what comes in your mind, private cloud, public cloud, Hypervisor.

An example for the demo would be like. question: if there are two devices in the same Lan how can I check the connection between them? (the answer is the PING command) what is the full form of ping command ..where is it implemented in the Osi layer(network layer) and also explain why?

So prepare each topic in this manner.

There were questions from OS too but that was medium like when we plug in a new device which thing in OS decides what type of device it is.

Round 3: Managerial round.

My interview round was clearly very good and the interviewer an impressed even though I had a DSA background still I answered most of the questions with

confidence. I was skipped this round and went ahead with the director round.

Round 4 : Director interview.

This round was mostly about my self-company but extended to technical stuff too.

The Person interviewing was the Director of the Pune branch of Nutanix.

He started with an intro and my goals, strengths. And various details about me.

And later he started asking really good questions on hardware and different topics… He asked me about windows and my experience in Linux. Some Linux commands which are better windows or Linux and why.

Where could I check all my system properties like graphics and all on my desktop?

Full form of various Linux command and their use. Some OSI protocols.

Topics To Prepare

Computer Networks

Operating System

Linux

Cloud Computing

Virtualization

Computer Hardware(Basics)

Troubleshooting

Online Assessment

The first round of the selection process consisted of an online Multiple-Choice Question (MCQ) test with around 50 questions to be answered within 70 minutes. The topics covered in this round included:

Basic Network Protocols

Linux commands and their use cases

Basics of computer hardware, such as storage devices

IPv4 and IPv6

Terminologies in Operating Systems

The test also included some true/false questions and some questions where more than one correct option could be selected. Out of approximately 200 participants, around 40 students were selected to advance to the next round of the selection process

Round 1: Technical Interview

Interview Round 1 Topics:

Fundamentals of Networking

Linux Operating System

Scenario-based Questions

Troubleshooting Questions (very important)

Questions Asked in the Interview:

Explain the System Booting Process.

You are not able to reach google.com. How do you resolve this issue? (DNS)

Explain DHCP in detail.

Subnetting questions.

Linux commands: top, file creation commands, ping, tracers, but presented in different troubleshooting scenarios.

Explain virtualization and hypervisor types used in data centers and laptops.

What is APIPV4 (important)? Who assigns it?

What is Virtual Memory, and what provides real-world situation-based questions?

What are the states of processes with PCB?

Round 2: Technical Interview

Questions Asked in the Interview:

Difference between SSD and HDD.

Explain a switch and its functions in the network, along with a scenario-based question.

Explain a router with a scenario-based question.

How is the Network Interface Card (NIC) connected to the Motherboard?

Explain what an API is as if you are explaining it to a 5-year-old kid without using any technical terms (in simple layman terms).

Resume Discussion (likely discussing the candidate's qualifications and experiences).

Operating system scenario-based questions, such as troubleshooting a computer hang situation using Linux commands.

Discussion about the Site Reliability Engineer (SRE) role and the candidate's understanding of it.

In the interview, the depth of understanding of the concepts is crucial. The interviewer is likely looking for clear and comprehensive explanations of the topics related to networking, Linux, and operating systems. Additionally, the candidate's resume and their fit for the SRE role may also be discussed. Be prepared to provide well-thought-out and detailed responses to showcase your knowledge and problem-solving skills.

Round 3:Technical Interview

Questions Asked in the Interview:

Explain Cloud computing in detail with follow-up questions.

Explain what is OS as if you are explaining it to a 5-year-old kid without using any technical terms (in simple layman's terms).

Networking scenario-based questions with diagram and IP address assigned to pc's

What is SSH and its commands and troubleshooting SSH ports that is client has a problem with SSH and the problem is in the server make him understand that the problem is not in his machine but in the server

Make basics Strong so that even if you don't know a question you can frame its basics around it.

Round 4:HR

This was my first offline interview and was most amazing, the person interviewing was from the support team of NUTANIX.

Introduce yourself, your family background, why chose engineering, why came to computer science, and why not go for masters.

Standard HR round questions you can find on the interview bit.

Some situation-based questions to analyze your real-time ability to think of solutions (real-life not from syllabus)

They want to know you as a person so be honest and humble.

They asked why not development and why SRE.

Oncampus SRE role:

If you are applying for System Reliability Engineer Intern**, then the questions will be mainly on Networking, Unix(basic Commands) and Operating System.**

Topics covered & Interview prep tips for nutanix:

While the specific questions in a Nutanix internship interview can vary depending on the role (e.g., software engineering, data analysis, etc.), here are some common types of questions you might encounter:

Technical Questions

Programming Questions: You may be asked to solve coding problems in languages like Python, Java, or C++. Common topics include:

- Data structures (arrays, linked lists, trees, graphs)

- Algorithms (sorting, searching, dynamic programming)

- Complexity analysis (Big O notation)

Example:

- "How would you implement a binary search algorithm?"

System Design: For technical roles, you might be asked to design a simple system or component.

- "Design a URL shortening service."

- "How would you design a cache for a web application?"

Database Questions: Basic SQL queries and database concepts might be tested.

- "Write a SQL query to find the second highest salary from an employee table."

Behavioral Questions

Teamwork and Collaboration: Expect questions about working in teams and handling conflicts.

- "Describe a time you worked on a team project. What was your role?"

Problem-Solving: You may be asked to discuss how you approach challenges.

- "Tell me about a difficult problem you encountered and how you solved it."

Interest in Nutanix: Be prepared to discuss why you want to intern at Nutanix and what you know about the company.

- "What interests you about working at Nutanix?"

Situational Questions

Hypothetical Scenarios: You might be presented with a scenario relevant to the role.

- "If you were given a project with a tight deadline and limited resources, how would you approach it?"

Preparation Tips

Research Nutanix: Understand their products, services, and recent developments.

Practice Coding: Use platforms like LeetCode or HackerRank to prepare for coding interviews.

Mock Interviews: Conduct mock interviews with friends or use platforms like Pramp.