Placement Experience with FICO

Interviewee 1:

Prefer Java and JavaScript but it is fine even if you know just the basics)

ROUND 1: Online Assessment

No. of questions: 18 (2 Coding, 16 MCQ)

Duration: 1 Hour

Coding questions were of range easy to medium and according to my calculations almost everyone had a question on string but the questions will be different for everyone. Talking about MCQs they were based on aptitude and reasoning and they were quiet similar for everyone but shuffled. Also I would suggest referring to PYQ because questions were repeated. An important point they will not allow coding in any other language except Java but you can try practicing Java for 4-5 days before OA and that will be enough in most of the cases.

ROUND 2: Technical Interview (Online)

Role: Solution Engineering

Duration: 45 Min.

1. Introduce Yourself.

2. As I had Java (basic) in my resume so he asked what it means for which I clearly stated that I know Java but I am more comfortable in C++ and he was totally fine about it.

3. Because of my previous answer he asked me some concepts of C and C++.

4. Structure and Classes are somewhat similar then why there was need of classes in C++ when there was structure in C already.

5. OOPS concepts – Classes, Objects, Polymorphism, Encapsulation, Inheritance, Interface, Abstract Class, Static, etc.

6. Why do we use static and is it thread safe.

7. Function overriding and overloading, Operator overloading and examples.

8. Constructor Destructor.

9. Do java have destructor and if not then why?

10. Then he switched to JavaScript (More than half of the time was given to this portion)

11. var let const.

12. There were some output questions which was totally basic concepts but confusing (Took most of the time).

13. Anonymous function, Self Calling function.

14. How will you navigate to other web page using pure JavaScript(without HTML).

15. When there is Java why there is a need of JavaScript?

16. Scenario based question on JavaScript- You have a create a 2 min. timer for every question in a quiz. How will you create that write a code?

17. SetInterval()

18. Substr() and Substring() difference.

19. Write a function which does not require any calling statement.

20. Variable hoisting related output questions.

21. Then he switched to SQL which was just for 5 min. because major time was taken in JavaScript hence just 5 min. left for SQL.

22. What are joins?

23. Different Type of joins.

24. Gave a table and asked to write a query for extracting the employee with second highest salary. (Could ask multiple ways to do it).

TIPS:
1. Be Confident (This is important don't be nervous they are very chill)
2. For JavaScript go through Interviewbit JavaScript interview questions (majorly questions were asked from there)
3. Didn't asked even the name of project for this particular role.
4. Even if you don't know an answer that is fine, if something comes to your mind try to speak that so that he will understand your approach and if nothing strikes politely say no.
5. Again don't get nervous they know you're fresher and they don't expect you to answer everything just be patient and confident.
6. Topics to prepare: Java, OOPS, Javascript, SQL, Some basics of C and C++ too.

ROUND 3: Group Discussion
No. of people: 14(Divided into 2 teams)
Duration: 15min.
No. of topics: 2 (7.5 min each)
1. Just watch some youtube videos on how to perform in a GD.
2. It was actually a debate between 2 teams.
3. For every topic one team was asked to favor and other were asked to oppose (3.5 min. approx.) then roles were switched (again for 3.5 min approx.).
TIP:
1. Find your way to speak but listen to others too.
2. Don't just speak for the sake of speaking, consider speaking logics.

ROUND 4: System Design (Surprise round)
Duration: 15 min. (3 section)
Type: Pen/Paper
1. Asked to write the features or how will you model a Recipe management system (Basically what all features would you put in it).
2. Then asked to write the names of possible classes from what you have done in first section.
3. Asked to implement one of the classes from second section.
I have no tips for this because it is all about presence of mind and problem solving skills.

ROUND 5: HR Interview
Duration: 10-15 min.
It was like a chit chat session. Asked to introduce myself then asked about my family, How did I opted for MCA from NIT Kurukshetra, If I am comfortable moving to Bangalore, Are my parent okay in me moving to Bangalore, What challenges I faced during my team project, My strengths and weaknesses, If I had breakfast or not, Since there were 3 roles they were offering (QA, SE, SDE) so he asked which role do I prefer and why? As my family background is business why did I not opted for business?
This was pretty much it!
TIPS: Be Confident!!!!!! I am sure you know answer to all of these questions just don't be nervous and talk as if you're talking to your colleague.

ROUND 6: HR + TECH Interview (Final Round)
Duration: 15-20 min.
1. Tell me about yourself which is not written in your resume.
2. How would you describe yourself?
3. What would your parents say about you?
4. What would your teachers say about you?
5. What would your maid say about you?
6. What I had for breakfast?
7. Ask me a question which I will not able to answer.
8. Applications of popular data structures in recipe management system (ex: Linked list, graph, tree, etc.)

9. If I have to choose between you and your Best friend with equal caliber who should I choose?
10. Mostly questions were all about presence of mind.
TIPS: Be Confident!!!!!! Take your time if you need to think, Be calm so that your mind can perform best and answer the best.
And then I got hired and I believe apart from all the technical and behavioural knowledge what played a major role in my selection was my confidence and that is why I am emphasizing this much on confidence.

Interviewee 2:

The process consisted of six rounds:
1. Online Assessment (OA): The first round was an online test lasting 1 hour. It included two coding questions in Java, easy to medium level, and quantitative questions covering topics like probability, permutation, and combination. There were questions related to DBMS and Java output-based questions.
2. Technical Interview: The second round was a technical interview conducted online. The interviewer asked me to introduce myself and then moved on to technical questions. These included:
- Finding the frequency of characters in a string
- Identifying the largest element in an array
- Replacing a substring within a string
- Discussing inheritance in object-oriented programming
- Explaining the code for a project I had worked on
- Discussing challenges faced in team projects
- SQL queries, particularly inner join and string commands
- The difference between truncate and delete in SQL
- Software development models, particularly the differences between Waterfall and Agile methodologies
- Machine learning models used in my project

3. Group Discussion (GD): Out of the initial pool, 28 candidates were selected for the group discussion round. We were divided into two groups and given two topics to discuss: "AI makes us dumb" and "Urban migration."
4. System Design: In this round, we were asked to provide a conceptual view of a system and an overview of the libraries needed to build it. The topic was a recipe management device, and to write a function or class related to a specific module within this system.
5. Technical + HR Interviews: Finally, 13 candidates were selected for the last two rounds, which combined technical and HR questions. During the first interview, I was asked about aspects not included in my resume, how others perceive me, abstract classes, and the practical applications of graphs and doubly linked lists. The interviewer also asked why I wanted to join FICO and so on. The second interview was more HR-focused, where I introduced myself and discussed my family, my class rank, and other similar subjects.

Interviewee 3:

1st Round OA
- 2 coding questions in java only 1 easy 1 medium
- 15 MCQ (Aptitude, DBMS, OS, Java)

2nd Online Interview (45 mins)
- Questions from JAVA, JavaScript
- Coding ques anagram in Java
- Real world scenario where anagram used

- prototypal inheritance
- Async await
- Promises
- Indexing
- Java vs JavaScript
- Real world scenario about synchronization
- questions about project-> what is this project why did u choose this techstack. what
- was your responsibilities .
- try catch exception

3rd Round Group Discussion
- Divided into two teams 1 had to defend and 1 had to speak again the given topic
- 2 topics were given (AI making people dumb and people moving to Urban area).

4th written test
- Low level design for Recipe management System
- It had 3 parts
    - 1st -> defining classes the system could have
    - 2nd -> what features classes could have
    - 3rd -> writing code of any one of the class, its methods and attributes.

5th Technical round
- questions from resume
- some java questions like inheritance and all
- asked how do you implement graph and doubly linked list in Recipe System

6th HR round
- Basic HR questions about you, about family, are you ok with moving to Bangalore, etc.

Interviewee 4:

Round : OA Round
- total of 18 questions, having 2 easy to medium dsa questions, rest java and aptitude

Round 2: Technical Interview
- 45 min zoom call starting with intro and background, then points from resume like what does this tech do, what does project do, simple SQL query, along with basic questions from java

Round 3: Group Discussion
- 2 topics : Urbanisation and effects of AI,
- both for and against for about 7-8 mins each

Round 4: System Design
- building a recipe management system having 3 parts, low level, high level and implementation of any 1 class

Round 5: Technical + HR
- questions from system design answer sheet like what data structure will you use, specific details from resume and simple HR questions like challenges you faced while learning something etc