Interview

Elevator pitch;

As an individual I am highly confident communicator and have the ability to excel in various different working environment. My main asset is my ability to work effectively when times are particularly tough and the environment is high pressure. I am able to use my newly refined listening skills which I developed in the early weeks of my sparta global training to implement an effective working dynamic.

**Week 1 Academy Day 4**

Interviewing

* Prepare prior by researching the company, polish CV, CV etiquette i.e. making it relevant, include everything we do in the academy
* Use research to create a list of questions – what proj will I be working on
  + How many on the team, roles make up the mean and how will it fit
  + Kind of social/ team building activities
  + How would I be onboarded to understand the systems you use
  + What tech stack do you have
* Answering interviewing question
  + Use STAR method – practice 5 key stories/ responses
  + TMAY
* Elevator pitch
  + what does your co do?
  + who are their customers?
  + key benefits they offer to customers?
  + why are you good at what you do?
  + What makes you excited about what you do?
  + 4/5 sentences
* Power words: successfully, energised, enthusiastic, interest, love, motivated, priority, sin

Elevator pitch

* Hi am Saheed and I am currently a trainee DevOps consultant and I am training with a company called Sparta Global. My company is an IT services provider which specialises in recruiting, training and deploying graduates and aspiring professionals to their clients. Sparta offers a great wealth of talented academy graduates to service the needs of their portfolio of clients. The home office, Deloitte, Channel 4.
  + Include info about hobbies and things outside of tech, use power words

Things not to say

* Benefits, how much holiday is there, what are the hours, what type of progression can I expect
* I don’t want to move
* This role is not for me, I would rather be in \*other role\*

**Interviewing**

* Interviewing:
* - Researching the company, about its products and projects   
  - Read the company reports (executive summary, tech plans)  
  - Find their competitors  
  - Find questions to ask - as you an potential asset to the company  
  - Understand their business - don’t try to memorise  
  - Check their social media  
  - Who are they hiring, what does it show you  
  - Look at the Linkedin profile of interviewer - present the interest  
  - Github profile and their code

Prepare six questions:

- What project would I be working on?  
- How many are on the team  
- What roles make up the team and how would you want me to fit into that?  
- What can I expect to do in my day to day role?  
- How would I be onboard to understand the systems you use?  
- What tech Stack do you have?  
- Major challenges you face into the team?  
- What kind of social/team building activities do you do here?

Answering questions:

- Always show passion - have energy, show pride in what you do   
- Typical questions - Tell Me About Yourself, Strengths and Weaknesses, off the wall, why are you interested in role/career choice, technical knowledge  
- Stories - Rehearse 4-5 broad stories   
- STAR method - Situation, Task, Action and Result

**What comes before the interview?**

* **The CV is the employers first overview of ourselves so it is important that this is made to the best of our ability.**

* **In our CV we should highlight the skills that would make us a good fit for that specific job role. Keep the CV concise, employers get a lot of CVs so ours has to be eye catching from the get go. (how working at sainsbury’s helped my organisational techniques.**

* **Make sure I add all the things I learn in the academy and other tech skills I have picked up in my self teaching**

Things not to say:  
- What are the benefits?  
- What is the pay, I don’t want to move, how much holidays do I get?

Structuring a presentation:  
- Intro and background  
- Outline  
- Sections - Lead in, content (rule of three), summary/review  
- Conclusion  
- Summary  
- Any questions

Power words

* Successfully
* Energized
* Enthusiastic
* Interested
* Love
* Motivated
* Priority
* Win

***Presentation skills***

Qualities of a good presentation and presenter

How are presentation are used in a business environment

What scenarios would you be asked to create and conduct a presentation

* Deliver information to stakeholders

Qualities of a good presenter

* Confidence – knowledge of the subject, preparation and planning
* Articulation
* Manners
* Right attitude/positive
* Enthusiasm/passion
* Diligence

CMADE – Confidence, Manner, Attitude, Diligence, Enthusiasm

Style and editing for presentations

* Direct and concise
* Bullet point
* Good use of visual assets
* No wrapping bullet points

Structure of a presentation

* Introduction/background
* Agenda – setting the narrative of the presentation from the beginning
* Sections: lead-in, content, summary/review(essential for information retention)
* Conclusion
* Any questions slide? – ask for contribution (necessary for audience engagement)

When presenting

* Understand your audience – makes tailoring of the presentation easier and more effective
* Keep it simple

Business project environment

DEFINITION: A project is unique and transient with a desired outcome

Business as usual,- day to day operations

Project work- timeframe docx

Analyse the function within the project environment

Project vs Business as usual

Business as usual – macro structure of the day

Project based work – micro structure of the day

Strategies for business as usual

* Optimisation
* Corporate strategies

Lifecycle of a project:

* Initiation
* Planning
* Executing
* Monitoring & controlling
* Closing

The triple constraint

* Time
* Quality
* Cost

Monolithic architecture vs microservices (netflix) case

The POPIT model/ the holistic triangle – outdate

* People
* Organisation
* Process
* Information Technology (IT)
* Technology

Auto scaling and higher availability – hybrid cloud structures

Benefits of a well-managed project

* Prioritisation
* Time management
* Contingencies
* The triple constraints are met (time,money and quality)
* Delegation of multi-tasking
* Efficiency of scope and scale
* Identification of risks /disadvantages/possible areas of friction

Software development lifecycle/methodologies advantages/disadvantages – how does agile help working in small teams/small services and devops context

* Waterfall
* Agile – most popular
* V model

Pseudo coding – scaffolding

* Business don’t necessarily have background in code and therefore pseudo coding is necessary to allow non-technical individuals in the business to understand what is going on with the code and the technical side

Test versions – customers/clients find bugs when using the programming – collate this

information and restart production and release a new model or version – iteration

planning is key

agile – iteration management

front-end and back-end test separately

after test are all clear both departments move on to integration

following on from this is production

find out what SCRUM artefacts and events –

**Friday 19th June – network diagram**

Network diagram is used for the planning process

Full macro view of the project including micro characteristics such as cost/time

When environmental factors change it is necessary to adapt, and allow for contingencies so that external or internal factors that have not been registered can be taken into account

Network diagram – flow from left to right

* 1. Task breakdown
  2. Estimation – time and cost are calculated (predictions) this is the stage were contingencies are implemented
  3. Logical dependencies – the logical order of a project, decomposing a large project into small dependencies that follow a logical order and when placed together create the final/whole product

Precedence table – predecessor relationship between tasks – once you work out the start node you can begin to create a predecessor table where tasks are defined by their perquisite tasks

* 1. Network diagram – precedence table is then translated into a network diagram.

The network diagram allows us to see the logical order of activities and to define our critical path

Activity on Node (AoN) – help you estimate time

Earliest start / Latest start

Duration/ Float

Float = latest start – early start – the amount of time the tasks are able to slip within that project

Early start + duration = early start of the next node

Take the maximum early start if there are two nodes on the same level

Latest start of the present node – duration of predecessor duration = latest start of predecessor node

Critical path is the longest path which has 0 float

**Working in a team**

Collaboration – access to different skills and views, stronger as a team

Diverse environments – different strategies, communication

Attitude to Mature teams

* Collocated – international opportunities
* Cross functional roles development and operations – bridge between the two
* Self-organising -
* Accountable and empowered – teams success is based on your individual success
* Test and learn Feedback loops – being iterative – analyse reiterate again to find the perfect formula

Quality Assurance

Business analyst

Project manager

User experience

Development – technical side

HOW to make things easier…

* Create a positive environment/ atmosphere
* Manage conflict intelligently
* Have open and clear communication
* Respect all of your peers
* Become trustworthy – reputation

**Business cases – comes before the project**

* Executive summary
* Expected/benefits and disbenefits
* Execution time
* Investment appraisal
* Solutions/options
* Major risks
* Stakeholders/ communication plan

Examples of techniques for analysis

* Strategy analysis
* Stakeholder analysis

Gathering facts/research and development

Return on investment (ROI) – there needs to be a positive return on investment before entrepreneurs would put down their capital

April to april tax year

Ascertain your end user – it comes down to the value passed on to the final user

User stories – from the perspective of the user what does the feature need to do

Cash flow and return on investment

Possible exposure to danger that can lead to loss = risk

Risks – some are expected, some are unforeseen it is essential to focus on unforeseen risk as they will improve the probability and feasibility of the project.

Risk identification tools – strengths and weakness analysis of individual systems

* Brainstorming
* Prompt list
* Delphi
* SWOT – strengths weakness, opportunities threats
* Previous experience

Some sources of risk:

* Technology
* Team
* Scope
* Business
* Economic risk
* Competition

Dealing with risks

* avoidance
* transfer
* reduce – reduce probability and impact
* accept
* exploit
* share
* enhance
* ignore

planning involves setting out the roadmap for the project by creating the following plans:

* project plan
* resource plan
* financial plan
* quality plan
* acceptance plan
* communications plan

project scope – network diagram

the role of stakeholders