Mock Interviews

Overview

- Structure of the mock interview
- The technical test
- The white boarding exercise
- Feedback and follow up questions

Learning Objectives

- Become familiar with the mock interview structure
- Be aware of the technical test and how to prepare
- Be aware of the whiteboarding exercise and how to prepare
- Be ready with questions to ask post-interview

Tech Role Interviews

- The hiring process for any role may consist of several stages.
- All interviews will include questions about your background and experience.
- Tech interviews may include a technical exercise which the applicant will complete with the interviewer.
- You may be asked to talk about a previous project you've worked on as part of a whiteboarding exercise.

The IW Mock Interview

- The IW mock interview will be scheduled in the first week after you complete your final projects
- The interview typically lasts between 45 - 60 minutes
- The interview consists of two parts:
  - A technical exercise
  - A whiteboarding exercise
- You will have the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the interview
- Once the interview is complete, the interviewer will give you immediate feedback

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The Technical Exercise

- The Infinity Works technical exercise will take about 20-25 minutes of the interview. You are not expected to finish the test, but demonstrate a good knowledge of Python syntax and logic. That being said, you are not expected to have memorised *every* method or piece of syntax, it's absolutely fine to look these up during the test if you're unsure.
- The exercise will be shared with you ahead of time and can be found here
- The exercise consists of a CSV parser written in Python script and asks you to update a specific method in order to read in a quoted CSV file, transform the data and display the required output.

Preparing for the Technical Exercise

- Clone the tech test repo and set up your virtual environment
- Look over the exercise requirements so you roughly know what to do.
- Practice programming by solving questions on LeetCode. LeetCode is one of the most well-known online judge platforms that you can use to practice your programming skills by solving coding questions
- When looking at solutions, bear in mind that these do not necessarily follow best software engineering practices e.g. readable code

Exercise

- The technical exercise will consist of completing a problem on LeetCode.
- Sign up to LeetCode.
- Complete the LeetCode palindrome number problem.

The Whiteboarding Exercise

- In the Infinity Works whiteboarding exercise, you will be asked to talk about a previous project you have worked on and to use a whiteboarding software (such as Google Jamboard) to help illustrate the different components.
- The exercise will take between 20 and 25 minutes.
- The interviewer will ask you questions about each component as well as questions about your ways of working etc.

Preparing for the Whiteboarding Exercise

- Become familiar with a whiteboarding software:
    - draw.io
    - miro
    - jamboard
- Rehearse talking about the project
- Practice visualising the project
- Be prepared to answer any questions about the project

Exercise

- In randomly allocated pairs, take ten minutes each to talk through and visualise a project of your choice.

Follow up Questions

- Once the technical exercise and whiteboarding exercise has been completed, you will be given the opportunity to ask the interviewer questions.

- Be sure to have some questions ready to ask, such as:
    - What does the team hierarchy look like?
    - What can you tell me about the company culture?

Learning Objectives Revisited

- Become familiar with the mock interview structure
- Be aware of the technical test and how to prepare
- Be aware of the white boarding exercise and how to prepare
- Be ready with questions to ask post interview