

# **BUILD YOUR BRAND**

# **Getting Interview Fit**

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Important: By 2 February 2025, you should have recorded an invite to an interview (if seeking employment) or a self-employment declaration (if seeking to be self-employed) at <a href="https://www.hyperiondev.com/outcome8">www.hyperiondev.com/outcome8</a>. Additionally, you should record an offer of a job (if seeking employment) or evidence of obtaining new work/contracts (if self-employed or seeking to be) at <a href="https://www.hyperiondev.com/finaloutcome8">www.hyperiondev.com/finaloutcome8</a> by 13 April 2025. Please record these milestones as soon as you reach them.

A **limited** number of co-certifications will be awarded based on your achievement of all **four criteria** for successful completion of this Skills Bootcamp.

# Introduction

This task focuses on equipping you for interviews. Although it will be of more relevance to job seekers than the self-employed, you'll find that a number of aspects can be easily transferred to a situation, like pitching for new business.

### **GENERAL INTERVIEW PREPARATION**

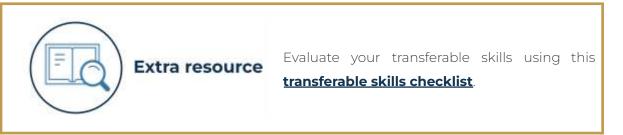
As a job seeker or self-employed student, you're likely already familiar with the tech industry. Now, it's time to prepare for interviews and synchronous meetings. The process will vary from company to company, but there are some general steps you can take to stand out.

Start by researching the industry and company. A company's website is a great resource, providing valuable information about their business and what they do. Use this information to tailor your skills and experience to the company, and prepare specific reasons why you're a good fit.

Next, compare your skills and qualifications to the job requirements or aspects of the potential client's business. This will help you anticipate concerns and prepare answers that showcase your strengths. Use your achievements and transferable skills to craft these answers. For example, if you're lacking experience in a specific tool, express your willingness

to learn and grow.

Remember, every answer should demonstrate why you're the best fit for the job or business opportunity. By following these steps, you'll be well-prepared for any interview or pitch meeting that comes your way.



In addition to researching the company and comparing your skillset to the job specification, answering common interview questions should be part of your preparation. Think about how you would respond to these common questions:

- Tell me about yourself and your background.
- What do you know about the company?
- Why are you applying for this position/business opportunity?
- Why do you want to work at/with this company?
- What appeals to you about the job description/business opportunity?
- What are you passionate about?
- What are your salary expectations/rates for the product or service offered?
- Are you interviewing with other companies/Do you provide this product or service to other clients?
- When can you start?
- What type of management style do you prefer?
- What are your career goals?
- What are you most proud of and why?
- What are some lessons you've learned from your previous experience?
- Can you give an example of a time when you worked well in a team and what lessons you drew from the experience?

• Can you give me an example of a time when you had to deliver demanding results under time pressure?

An interviewer/potential client will almost always ask you to 'tell them a little about yourself/your company', so prepare a good **elevator pitch**! Candidates/companies who are well prepared for interviews/pitch meetings are more confident and provide more thorough answers. Practice answering questions aloud or with another person to build up your confidence and reduce your stress on the day of the interview. Remember to consider how you can leverage your strengths and mitigate your weaknesses in the role/business opportunity. You can also note where you have had a positive impact in professional roles or informal roles such as volunteer work or sports teams.

Some questions that are likely to be asked in an interview are behaviour and competency questions. The best way to answer this type of question is by using the STAR technique.

### **STAR technique**

**Situation:** Describe the situation to provide context to the interviewer.

**Task:** Outline your role in the situation by explaining your duties and what was expected of you.

**Action:** Explain how you performed your tasks, including instances where you went above the call of duty to achieve a positive outcome.

**Result:** Conclude your response with the outcome of your actions and whether the situation was resolved or not. If possible, it is beneficial to include quantitative data to quantify the outcome.

Practice answering behavioural interview questions using the STAR technique by referring to a list of **common STAR interview questions**. The same approach can be used to structure a pitch meeting with a potential client, by referring to situations in previous business opportunities or related experiences that can help to convince the potential client you have what it takes to deliver the product or service they want if they give you their business.



More examples of STAR interview questions and possible answers are available from career coaches

Amri Celeste and Richard McMunn.

Technical questions may also be included in an interview/pitch meeting, even if it is not framed as a 'technical interview'/'technical pitch'. You should be able to answer specific technical questions related to the role/business opportunity and be able to explain your thought process in solving technical problems, as employers/potential clients want to see

that you are a problem solver and strategic thinker. Examples include:

- What are CSS selectors or practical aspects of CSS in everyday use?
- What is object-oriented programming?
- Explain the logic of a common algorithm such as a sorting algorithm.

Explore the following resources to see example interview/pitch technical questions relevant to the programming language or role you are interested in:

- Python
- Software engineering
- Data science
- Web development
- Cyber security

At the end of an interview/pitch meeting, you will usually have the opportunity to ask questions. Prepare some well-informed questions to demonstrate that you have done your homework about the company and that you have a genuine interest in working for them. Some examples include:

- Can you tell me more about the day-to-day responsibilities of the role?/Can you provide more detail about the business opportunity?
  - This provides an opportunity for you to sell yourself with regard to some of the skills/products/services required if you haven't had a chance to do so earlier in the interview/pitch meeting.
- How could I impress you in the first three months?
  - The aim of this question is to identify goals or challenges the potential employer/client is facing that you could support them with. Asking this type of question shows a goal-orientated and growth-directed mindset, which is attractive to employers/clients.

Before you leave, ask what the next steps are or when you can expect to receive feedback from the potential employer/client.

### **TECHNICAL INTERVIEW**

While you may ace your initial verbal interview/pitch meeting, when it comes to hiring for any technical roles/business opportunities, the core of the whole process is to determine your ability to write quality code that is correct, efficient, and adheres to industry standards. Hiring managers/potential clients often achieve this through in-person whiteboard technical questions and take-home tests or assessments.



Ace your technical take-home test using **helpful tips** from Jane Philipps.

The main aim of technical interviews/pitches goes beyond simply testing your ability to solve the problem or provide the required technical product/service. Hiring managers/potential clients want to test your technical capability, which includes your sense of logic, ability to think clearly in a high-pressure situation, and ability to work through problems by formulating and asking appropriate questions. Some questions hiring managers/potential clients will be asking themselves include:

- What is your overall approach to solving a problem?
- What do you do when you get stuck?
- Are you able to 'brute force' your way to the solution?
- Are you methodical, or do you just hammer through a bunch of approaches and see what works?
- Do you document your code?

During a technical interview/pitch, your best bet is to take a moment to organise your thoughts. Then, think through the question verbally and ask clarifying questions. Logically analyse (out loud) the different ways to approach the problem. Discuss why you would prefer approaching it in a certain way and, if you get there, eventually describe your answer. Often, interviewers are not just looking for the right answer. Getting the right answer (or one of the right answers) is important, but it is equally important to showcase your logical, verbal, and analytical abilities and show you are a person who retains their wit in a stressful situation. For self-employed people in a technical pitch, there might be the latitude to request a written set of technical requirements and respond at a later date; this mirrors the situation employers create when they provide a take-home test to potential employees.

Here are some resources that will help you prepare for the programming part of technical interviews/pitches:

- "Full-stack Developer Interview Questions and Answers" on <u>GitHub</u> provides questions across a range of tools, including Python, JavaScript, SQL, and Git.
- <u>A2Z Interviews</u> focuses on questions related to software engineering rather than coding tasks.
- **HackerRank** allows you to practise your coding skills in Python and SQL, and includes databases, algorithms, and data structures as topics.

- <u>CareerRide</u> provides questions and some coding problems for Python and JavaScript, as well as several other languages.
- <u>Topcoder</u> focuses on web development and data science.
- <u>CodeChef</u> allows you to choose a topic and then the programming language you would like to use.
- **Coderbyte** has an online environment where you can practise coding challenges in several languages, including Python and JavaScript.
- <u>TestGorilla</u> includes tests for SQLite, working with data, CSS, and software engineering principles.
- **Exercism** helps you to develop fluency in the programming language of your choosing.

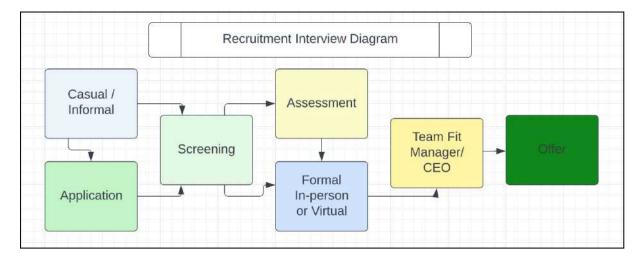
Explore online to find other websites to <u>improve your coding skills</u>. It's important to be confident in your abilities to win over interviewers/potential clients, and the best way to achieve this is to be able to communicate genuine confidence in your abilities and passion for the technical components of the role/business opportunity you're seeking.



We highly recommend you look for a text called *Cracking the Coding Interview* by Gayle Laakmann McDowell, which offers valuable guidance and practise for tech interviews. This can be **purchased from Amazon**, but may also be available in your local public library or other places online.

### TYPES OF INTERVIEWS AND PITCH OPPORTUNITIES

Each company will have a different interview process for job seekers; however, common elements include assessing behaviours and competencies (STAR questions), technical skills, and team fit. In this section, we will discuss the different types of interviews and assessments that may be included in the interview process. An example process is illustrated in the diagram below:



In some cases, steps may be skipped; for instance, a headhunted candidate might proceed directly to a screening interview without applying. Multiple interview types can be combined or held separately. If combined, the process might last a full day, with various interviews and assessments. This also applies to business pitches; companies may not always follow the same hiring process, though larger firms typically have established procedures.

### Informal or casual interviews

Informal interviews or business pitches can occur at industry meet-ups, networking events, or conferences. These allow employers to observe your behaviour and determine whether you fit their company or if they'd like to do business with you. During these opportunities, learn about the role or business needs, and align them with your skills and experience to demonstrate your fit. If they mention challenges or needs, offer solutions to show your value. If invited to apply or pitch, send your customised application or proposal promptly.

## Screening interviews/meetings

Screening interviews/meetings are normally performed after you have sent your application or initial pitch. They are similar to informal interviews/pitch opportunities in that they allow the potential employer/client to observe how you conduct yourself and gauge whether or not you would fit into the company, or whether you're the right person to provide the product/service they need. Telephonic or video conference screening interviews/meetings are generally 15 to 30 minutes long. Ensure you're in a quiet place and have a good connection, and a charged device for the call. Prepare by using some **screening interview questions** assembled for tech roles.

### **Career history interview**

Career history interviews, conducted by one or two hiring committee members, to assess role fit and explore your relevant career roles. Employers seek to understand your responsibilities, achievements, challenges, and team dynamics. For technical positions, expect detailed discussions about your technical work and side projects. Prepare by

reviewing **work history questions**. Self-employed candidates may face potential clients interested in their experience providing the pitched products or services, using past work to demonstrate suitability.

### Focused, competency, or behavioural interview

In a **competency or behavioural interview**, one or two hiring committee members assess culture fit by focusing on essential competencies for the team and role. Interviewers explain each competency and ask you to share instances from past roles where you demonstrated or could have better demonstrated these competencies. For self-employed candidates, this is a chance to highlight qualities attractive to potential clients, such as confidence, industry knowledge, organisation, and professionalism. Reflect on what you value when choosing a product or service provider.

#### Assessments

Interview assessments or client requests for detailed business proposals can include challenges, projects, or tests. Job seekers might complete take-home assignments, whereas self-employed individuals may present what they or their company will do to prove their suitability. The length and difficulty of these tasks vary by company or client and the role, product, or service. These assessments, often called 'technical interviews/pitches', reveal a candidate's true abilities and personality, showing how they perform under pressure. Various methods can be used to test a candidate's skills, including:

- **Aptitude tests** assess skills and capabilities, mainly used in interviews rather than business pitches.
- **IQ tests** measure problem-solving, numeracy, and literacy skills that are crucial in tech. IQ tests are typically used in interviews rather than business pitches.
- **Psychometric tests** evaluate intelligence, values, and behaviours. They are also mostly used in interviews.
- Stemming from the field of psychology, **personality tests** identify character traits. These are used primarily in interviews, but occasionally in business pitches.
- **Technical assessments** combine application and knowledge-based questions to test technical skills, usually part of technical interviews but sometimes preliminary tests.
- Business simulations involve competing in groups to develop, market, and distribute products, with self-employed candidates addressing real rather than simulated business needs.
- **Presentations** evaluate self-confidence and communication. They are conducted in person, virtually, or via video, and are crucial for self-employed pitches to potential clients
- **Take-home tests** are written assignments or presentations reflecting job tasks requiring a professional format. Similar business proposals for self-employed

candidates must showcase research and unique value.

• **Group discussions** test interactive skills with problem-solving scenarios. Business scenarios, either simulated or real, are used to test analytical skills and solutions.

#### VIRTUAL VERSUS IN-PERSON INTERVIEWS

It's very important to prepare for the nature of the interview/business meeting, whether it is face-to-face, by phone, or via video conference. Many companies prefer virtual meetings for efficiency. For virtual sessions, ensure a neutral background, a quiet room, good lighting, and a working device with a camera and microphone. Install and test the required platform (Google Meet, Teams, Skype, Zoom) ahead of time and ensure good connectivity, with a backup plan like mobile hotspot data. Dress professionally, be punctual, and maintain eye contact to convey confidence, especially in virtual settings.



Learn some **tips and tricks for virtual interviews** on the HyperionDev blog.

An in-person interview/pitch requires more preparation time due to transport planning, parking logistics, and appearance preparation. Give a firm handshake and smile when introducing yourself and try to get there ahead of time to show punctuality (aim to be at least 10–15 minutes early). During the interview/pitch, maintain a good posture but feel free to lean forward or nod to show interest when the interviewer/potential client is asking a question or explaining something. Eye contact also contributes to confident body language. Resist the urge to fidget; keep your arms relaxed and hands folded in your lap.



Read more <u>tips for a successful interview</u> and <u>advice on body language</u> to make a good first impression.

### **INTERVIEW CHECKLIST**

The infographic below is specific to interviews, but the principles apply to self-employed students and pitch/business meetings as well.

# Do your research



Dedicate some time a few days beforehand to research the company. Make note of any significant milestones, the company structure, the ethos and the culture.

### **Dress for success**

Make sure that you are neat and presentable: a collared shirt, tailored pants and smart

### Be honest



Don't pretend you know an answer. If you're unsure, say so, and then explain how you would go about finding an answer. Employers want to see that you know your limitations but are also keen to learn.

# How to ace an interview



Have a look at possible interview questions and practice your answers especially for technical interviews

#### Mind the time

shoes are always a safe bet.



You need to arrive at least 15 minutes before your interview.

Also be mindful of keeping your answers succinct. If the interviewer needs more information, they'll ask.

Use the checklist below to do a quick review of the key steps you need to take to prepare for an interview/business meeting.

# Before the interview/pitch

|     | Respond promptly to interview requests or client inquiries, even if you're not interested, to maintain good relationships.   |
|-----|--|
|     | Research the company or client to understand their needs and show your interest.   |
|     | Be ready to explain how your education and experience make you a good fit. Avoic yes/no answers to help them decide on you easily.   |
|     | Review your technical knowledge from your Skills Bootcamp. Companies expect a basic level of technical skill, whereas clients expect more. If needed, capture the client's requirements and promise a detailed proposal later. |
|     | For online interviews, connect and install the necessary software the day before.  |
| n t | the day  |
|     | Be punctual. Arriving late or rescheduling can hurt your chances, so prepare to be on time.  |
|     | Log in early for virtual meetings to check your microphone and camera, allowing  |

| time to fix any issues.  |
|--|
| Use positive body language: maintain eye contact, sit up straight, and show enthusiasm.            |
| Dress appropriately, even when online. Professional attire helps you feel and appear professional. |
| Smile and appear happy to be there. Staying relaxed and confident gives a good impression.         |
| Highlight your strengths and how you can contribute to the role or meet the client's needs.        |
| Ask about the next steps before leaving. For pitches, propose specific follow-up actions.          |
| Thank the interviewer or client for their time. Follow up with an email expressing                 |

enthusiasm, and for pitches, include additional details like proposals or brochures.



A reminder of the important dates: By 2 February 2025, you should have recorded an invite to an interview (if seeking employment) or a self-employment declaration (if seeking to be self-employed) at <a href="https://www.hyperiondev.com/outcome8">www.hyperiondev.com/outcome8</a>. Please record this milestone as soon as you reach it.

You can record any of the following:

- Joining an apprenticeship programme that utilises some of the knowledge obtained in your bootcamp.
- Obtaining a paid work opportunity for a duration of at least 12 weeks that utilises some of the knowledge obtained in your bootcamp.
- Obtaining a full-time job that utilises some of the knowledge obtained in your bootcamp and is with a new employer or your current employer (e.g., a promotion or extension of role).

Additionally, by **13 April 2025**, you should have recorded an **offer of a job** (if seeking employment) or evidence of obtaining **new work/contracts** (if self-employed or seeking to be) at **www.hyperiondev.com/finaloutcome8**. Please record this milestone as soon as you reach it. You can record any of the following:

- An offer of a new job or apprenticeship that utilises part or all of the skills acquired in your bootcamp. You don't need to accept the offer to fulfil this requirement.
- New contracts or opportunities you obtained that utilise the new skills acquired through the bootcamp, which may include self-employed contract work or starting your own company.

Remember to keep an open mind, and **explore various opportunities** to help you practise your interviewing skills and broaden your engagement with the tech sector. If you receive an invitation to a job or apprenticeship interview, please remember to fill out **www.hyperiondev/outcome8 before attending** the interview.

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# **Practical task 1**

First, create a Google doc with a uniquely identifiable filename that includes your name, email address, and a task identifier for this task (e.g. Interviews). For instance, if your name was John Smith and your email address was john\_smith@gmail.com, your filename would be John Smith – john\_smith@gmail.com – Interviews. As you progress through the practical task, you will fill your answers into this Google doc, which you will save as a PDF and upload it to GitHub at the end.

The instructions below differ slightly for job seekers and self-employed students. Read them carefully and follow those that fit the appropriate category.

#### **SELF-EMPLOYED STUDENTS**

- Consider companies and business contacts that you would pitch your services or products to. Note the contact person and other details of five such companies and contacts.
- **Create and submit pitches** to these five opportunities. For each opportunity you pitch for, this will involve:

- Using your improved CV as the basis: Create a CV tailored to the business opportunity. Ensure you have your GitHub and LinkedIn profile links included in your CV.
- Using <u>the cover letter template we provided previously</u>, along with the guidance provided, create a cover letter tailored to the business opportunity.
- You will need to track this data in your copy of the tracker spreadsheet as you go along.
- For each of the opportunities you pitch for, capture your contact's details if possible (company name, their name, email address, phone number, and their LinkedIn profile URL if possible). **Try to find LinkedIn profile links for all contacts.**

#### **JOB SEEKERS**

Time to apply for some more roles! You can follow these steps, which should be familiar by now:

- Once again, consider the sort of roles you might like to apply for and the sort of companies you might want to work for. Take into consideration the role, the skills required, location, ways of working (remote, hybrid, or on-site), the type and size of the organisation, and the industry.
- Find five junior tech roles currently being advertised **different from any previous roles you identified or applied for** ensuring you consider **a range** of employers large (1,000+ employees) and small (100–500 employees) companies; as well as tech scale-ups (up to 100 employees), paid internships and apprenticeships; or companies that source, hire, and train.

Remember that we specifically request that you search for and apply to a **broad range of organisations**. Many years of experience in helping students find work in the tech sector have shown us that this is **best practice** for a number of reasons: it pushes students out of the comfort zone of just applying to work for the major brands they're already familiar with; it helps students to broaden their knowledge of which companies form part of the tech hiring landscape, particularly small to medium enterprises (SMEs); and it ensures that we meet the Department for Education requirement to address the needs of the broader, especially SME, tech market. Keep in mind that our team will review your submitted data and endeavour to create relationships with your identified companies wherever possible if we do not already have relationships with those companies; focusing on companies of different sizes and profiles will also help to diversify your application profile and increase your chances of success.

• For each of the roles you have identified, again identify the recruiting or hiring managers (possibly the Talent or HR team at each company) and their contact details if possible.

• Create and submit applications to these five opportunities. Also, reach out to the contacts you have identified in whatever way possible (email, LinkedIn direct message, phone call, etc.), drawing their attention to your application to their company's role.

#### **ALL STUDENTS**

- Fill in the details of the contact people you have identified into **this form**. Take screenshots of the form showing all the data you have filled in, and paste them into the Google doc you created earlier so that the person reviewing your work can see that you have completed this part of the task. Also include a screenshot of the message that displays on-screen after your form has been successfully submitted, proving that you have properly submitted the form. Note that each Build Your Brand (BYB) submission success message contains a unique code, so please take care to avoid accidentally using a screenshot from a previous BYB form.
- Update your copy of the Job Interviews/Pitch Opportunities Tracker and insert a
  publicly accessible link to it into your Google answers doc. This <u>short video</u> will
  guide you through creating a shareable link. Remember that although your tracker
  will be reviewed fortnightly to assess updates, you will not receive additional grades
  or feedback.

## Rubric for job applications/pitches assessment

Your job applications/pitches will be marked using the rubric below. It is included here so that you can use it as a guide if you wish.

|                            | Unsatisfactory (1)    | Acceptable (2)     | Outstanding (3)                |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
|                            | Evidence not provided | As for outstanding | Evidence provided as requested |
| Data Form:<br>Provision of | or incomplete         |                    |                                |
| evidence of                |                       |                    |                                |
| completion                 |                       |                    |                                |
|                            |                       |                    |                                |

# **Practical task 2**

Using one of the job listings or business opportunities you identified in Practical task 1, practise your interviewing/live business pitch skills by conducting a mock interview/pitch. This exercise will help you articulate your thoughts, showcase your skills, and improve your interview/pitch technique with constructive feedback from career coaches.

### **Preparation:**

- Select a job description/business opportunity you have recently applied/pitched to or plan to apply/pitch to in the near future. This will serve as the basis for your mock interview/pitch.
- Choose a simple recording app, such as Photo Booth (for Mac users), or free online recording software like Loom, to record your mock interview/pitch. Note that some free online recording software subjects recordings to length limitations.

### **Recording setup:**

- Ensure you are in a quiet, well-lit space where you can record without interruptions.
- Test your microphone and camera to ensure they are working correctly, and that you are clearly visible and audible in the video.

### Record yourself answering these mock interview/pitch questions:

- Stating whether you are a job seeker or a self-employed student. Those who wish to remain at the same company but achieve an internal move to/promotion into a tech role should follow the instructions for job seekers.
- Tell me about yourself/your company/your product or service (elevator pitch).
- Why are you interested in this role/business opportunity? (Tailor this response to the position/opportunity you've selected.)
- Please share some of your professional strengths/areas of specialisation that you feel would be particularly beneficial for the role/business opportunity. Also:
  - **Job seekers**: Discuss an area where you're looking to improve or a weakness you've been working on.
  - Self-employed people: Discuss an area of growth for yourself or your business where you are still trying to break into the market.

- Describe a technical project you worked on and how you overcame the challenges you encountered while completing it.
- Choose a technical concept and explain it to the imagined interviewer/potential client, assuming they are not a technical person. (For instance, explain algorithms in software engineering, responsive design in web development, a statistical method in data science, or penetration testing in cyber security, depending on your field.)

### **Record your responses:**

- Start your recording by introducing the mock interview/pitch, and mentioning the role/business opportunity and company related to the job description/opportunity you've chosen.
- Proceed to answer each of the six questions, aiming for concise yet informative responses. Each answer should ideally be from one to two minutes long, so your overall video length should not exceed approximately 13 minutes. If you're using free software with a length limitation, you can break the recording into smaller sections if necessary.
- Conclude your recording by thanking the imagined interviewer/potential client for considering your application/pitch.

#### **Submission:**

- Once you are satisfied with your recording, either add a link to it (if it is hosted online) into your Google answers doc, or upload a copy of the video itself to GitHub.
- Ensure your video file is named appropriately, including your name and the date of submission for easy identification, e.g., John\_Doe\_Interview\_25092024 or Jane\_Doe\_Business\_Pitch\_25092024.

# Rubric for mock interview video assessment

Your video will be marked using the rubric below. It is included here so that you can use it as a guide if you wish.

|   | Unsatisfactory (1)  | Acceptable (2)  | Outstanding (3)   |
|---|---|---|---|
| Appearance /<br>Physical<br>presentation<br>of self | <ul> <li>Appearance is untidy or somewhat untidy</li> <li>OR</li> <li>Choice of clothing is inappropriate (shirt un-tucked, t-shirt, too much jewellery, etc.)</li> <li>OR</li> <li>Poor grooming</li> </ul>                                      | <ul> <li>Overall neat appearance</li> <li>Choice of clothing is acceptable for an interview or business pitch</li> <li>Well groomed (i.e. shirt tucked in, hair neat, minimal clothing wrinkles)</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Overall appearance is very neat</li> <li>Choice of clothing is appropriate for any job interview/business pitch</li> <li>Very well groomed (hair, clothes, etc.)</li> <li>Overall appearance is highly professional</li> </ul> |
| Greeting /<br>Introduction                          | Uses informal/overly casual behaviour and language, but does modify behaviour to fit the interview/pitch scenario     Attempts to be courteous but is awkward   | · Acceptable behaviour,<br>comes across as polite,<br>professionalism may be<br>immature or somewhat<br>lacking   | Professional behaviour and language     Friendly and courteous demeanour  |
| General<br>spoken<br>communicatio<br>n              | · Speech is unclear – lapses in sentence structure and grammar (do not mark students down for poor sound quality related to having a poor microphone, as this is out of their control)  OR  · Volume is inappropriately loud/soft/uneven (varied) | Speech is clear, with minimal mistakes in sentence structure and grammar  Volume is appropriate   | Speaks clearly and distinctly with no lapses in sentence structure and grammar usage; speaks concisely with correct pronunciation     Volume conveys business tone and professionalism  |
| General body<br>language                            | · Fidgets (i.e., frequent<br>movement of hands<br>and body unrelated to<br>expressively<br>communicating  | · Minimal fidgeting (i.e.,<br>occasionally shifting);<br>average use of physical<br>gestures, facial expressions<br>and body movements in a   | <ul> <li>No fidgeting</li> <li>Consistently uses facial expressions and body movements in a manner</li> </ul>   |

| Specific body<br>language -<br>posture and<br>eye contact  | answers)  OR  • Rigid/inexpressive body language and facial expressions which convey fear/boredom  • Does not look at camera  OR  • Keeps head down  OR  • Minimal to no eye contact | manner which enhanced what they were saying  • Sits up straight, good posture; establishes eye contact with interviewers during the interview 60-70% of the time  | which enhances the delivery of what they are saying  • Sits up straight, excellent posture  • Looks relaxed and confident  • Establishes appropriate eye contact with interviewers during the interview 90-100% of the |
|--|--|---|--|
| General<br>attitude  | OR Poor posture/slouching Shows little enthusiasm OR Appears only somewhat interested in the mock interview/pitch delivery   | · Shows interest in the<br>mock interview/pitch<br>delivery, shows some<br>enthusiasm   | Conveys interest in and enthusiasm for the mock interview/pitch delivery   |
| Responses to<br>set questions                              | <ul> <li>Long and rambling responses to questions (total over 16 minutes)</li> <li>OR</li> <li>Responses that don't really answer the questions</li> </ul>                           | · Answers the questions but<br>doesn't always provide<br>answers that would win<br>over a potential interview or<br>a business client; answers<br>may be slightly too short or<br>long, and overall question<br>responses lack<br>maturity/polish | Concise yet informative responses that provide appropriately tailored and nuanced answers to the questions  Answers are likely to impress an interviewer or potential business client                                  |
| Overall<br>demonstration<br>of interview /<br>pitch skills | Demonstrates limited proficiency; limited demonstration of competent interview skills and general professionalism  | Demonstrates average<br>proficiency; average<br>demonstration of<br>competent interview skills<br>in a generally confident<br>manner  | Demonstrates a high level of proficiency     Appropriately utilised interview/pitch skills in an engaged and professional manner     Conveys confidence and authenticity   |

# **Practical task 3**

In this task, you will be adding to your technical portfolio on GitHub. Follow these steps:

- Push one or more new practical coding tasks to the remote repository you created previously, that you called **codingTasks**.
- Add a detailed README file for each practical coding task that you have pushed to GitHub. A reminder that README files should contain the following:
  - o The coding task name.
  - A clear, short, and to-the-point description of your coding task. Describe what it does, and why learning this aspect of coding is important.
  - A table of contents to allow other people to quickly navigate especially long or detailed READMEs.
  - o If anything needs to be installed to run your code, include an installation section that tells other users how to install your project locally.
  - A usage section must be included that instructs others on how to use your code after they've installed it. Include screenshots of what your program does.
  - A section for credits that highlights and links to the authors of your code (in this case it should only be you, but this is good practice for a professional role where you are likely to work in a team of developers).
- Put a link to your repository in your Google answers doc.

# Final submission checklist

### Ensure you hand in the following:

- In your **Google answers** doc:
  - Screenshots of your completed job/pitch form and a screenshot showing proof that you have successfully submitted the form.
  - A publicly accessible link to your copy of the Job Interviews/Pitch
     Opportunities Tracker, updated to include the five new roles you applied for.
     This **short video** will guide you through creating a shareable link.
  - A link to your interview video from Practical task 2 if you're hosting it online. If you're uploading it to GitHub instead, add a note into your answers doc specifying this, and don't forget to upload the file(s). Remember to ensure your video file is named appropriately, including your name and the date of submission for easy identification, e.g., John\_Doe\_Interview\_25092024 or Jane\_Doe\_Business\_Pitch\_25092024.
  - A publicly accessible link to your GitHub repository containing the code you uploaded to your developer profile repository.
- Once you've done the above, save your Google answers doc as a PDF (using menu options File → Download → PDF document) and upload it to the GitHub folder for this task.

### **Submission:**

If you score below 18/27 for these tasks, you will be able to resubmit the tasks. If you score 18/27 or higher, your submission is automatically accepted and so you will not be able to resubmit the tasks.

Remember, if you secure an interview, it is absolutely vital that you notify us via <a href="https://hyperiondev.com/outcome8">hyperiondev.com/outcome8</a>.



HyperionDev strives to provide internationally excellent course content that helps you achieve your learning outcomes.

Think that the content of this task, or this course as a whole, can be improved, or think we've done a good job?

**<u>Click here</u>** to share your thoughts anonymously.

### **REFERENCES**

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