

Name: [Daksh Dholakia](#) (CSE-DS, Batch 2024)
Date of online test: 1st August, 2023
Date of interview: 4th August, 2023
Company: TresVista
Role: Analyst (Research & Investment Services)

Aptitude Test:

The duration of the aptitude test was around 65 minutes. The first section of the test (30 questions in 45 minutes) consisted of questions on quantitative mathematics, basic arithmetic, logical reasoning, and data interpretation. The second section of the test (14 questions in 20 minutes) consisted of questions on basic-to-intermediate English i.e., grammar, comprehension, etc. The test had 1/3rd negative marking (minus 1 mark for every 3 incorrect answers).

62 students were shortlisted out of almost 150-200 applicants.

Round 1 Interview:

The average duration of an interview was 30 minutes (varied according to the panel and candidate's knowledge).

The interviewer began by basic greetings, and an elaborate introduction about herself (both professional and slightly casual). This is followed by the candidate's interview. (Tip: Try to follow the flow of the interviewer's introduction and cover similar aspects).

She grilled me over my introduction by pointing out my interest and experience in Data Science and Marketing. She wanted to know why I am looking for a job in finance. This was a good (*?) 5-7 minutes. Explain how and why you want to take a shift to finance. (Trick question: Our company has a data engineering opening as well; how can I trust you for not taking the transfer? What if you waste my department's 2 years of training you?)

Then she asked whether or not I knew about their company's various operations and services. She asked me if I visited their website or not.

She asked me basic financial questions like:

1. What are the three financial statements? (I explained all three elaborately)
2. What is WACC? (I could not answer this. If you don't know an answer, convey it to them in a straightforward manner without beating around the bush; they don't appreciate falsified answers.)
3. What is the difference between debt and equity? (Explain how these two types are used for raising funds in a company, and mention their risk and growth factors.)
4. Difference between stocks and bonds? (include risk, maturity, growth, type of instrument, etc.)
5. What is working capital? What is negative working capital? (try and give examples of temporary and permanent negative working capital)

Some quick math questions:

1. If the cost of an item becomes \$800 and its depreciation is at 20%, what was the original cost?
2. Distance-Time-Speed question, asked me to convert the answer in miles/hour and meter/second (without pen/paper/calculator)

Guesstimate:

Pick your nearest pizza outlet and estimate how many vegetarian pizzas it sells in one week.

Tip: Proof-read your resume before submitting, they have a knack of noticing minor and trivial errors as well.

When they ask you if you have any questions, asking about the weather is fine; but **do not** ask about feedback for the interview. (P.S. do not actually ask about the weather - maybe ask about their personal take on the company's culture, the learning curve, etc.)

Around 15 applicants made it to the second round (HR Round), including me.

Round 2 Interview (HR):

The average duration was not more than 15-20 minutes.

The HR was pretty chill. He began by asking me about my day and other things to make me comfortable. He introduced himself more on the professional side and his career graph, so I borrowed his template and gave my introduction accordingly.

Then he asked me a similar question (why take the shift to finance?)

He asked about any prior experience in finance (I mentioned being the CFO and Presenter in a national-level Business Plan Pitch, and how I calculated the hypothetical finances. I also mentioned the two subjects taught in the syllabus related to finance (Time Series Analysis and Financial Markets & Computing. He seemed interested to know what all I had learnt, so I gave him a brief idea about the concepts taught.)

Guesstimate:

Estimate the number of petrol pumps in Mumbai.

Case Study:

If I want to open a liquor shop in your locality, list down all the factors an Analyst (you) needs to consider to predict whether or not it's a good decision.

He asked me if I'm willing to work till late night (uncertain working hours)

He also asked me about my future plans (make them feel that you're committed to the company for the foreseeable future without mentioning the exact number of years. Usually they expect at least 2-3 years)

Out of these applicants, 12 candidates were recruited into the company. I did not make the cut.