

Coding on the Fly



Pitfall 2: Silence



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By the end of this video you will be able to...

- Talk through your thought process when coding a technical question in a technical phone screen

You need to think about the problem

- There's nothing wrong with that! The interviewer expects that. But if all you're doing is thinking in your head, why are you on the phone? Let's take a look at Huang, answering the question "Convert String to a char array"

Insert bad Huang video here

- Clip will be the specific piece where she's writing the loop

Huang really struggled

- Long periods of silence
- When she did talk, it was to simply state what she was typing
- Interviewer will assume she doesn't know anything more than what she types
- Talking lets the interviewer into your head:
 - In the beginning—she could have gotten hints on where to go
 - When she got stuck—it looked like she knew nothing, but she might have known something.
 - Silence usually is interpreted as not knowing anything at all.
- Talk through your process. Think out loud. Make sure you never have long periods of silence.

Huang solves her problems by thinking out loud

- Let's take a look at how Huang does better in her next interview.
- We'll focus on the part where she's writing the loop.