# EP02: What is the best programming language for placements?

* Disclaimer: “This is not the answer given by an individual, but it's the collective opinion by the entire LLC Team summarized”
* Introduction
* While knowing one language should be enough, it’s good to have a second language up your sleeve to prove that you’re a serious person :P
* The two most popular languages that the LCC members used during their placements are Python and C++. People who had C++ as their primary language chose Python as the secondary language and vice versa. If you’re more comfortable with Java then you can use that instead of C++.
* C++ Strengths:
  + It’s very similar to C, which is usually the first thing you learn in coding.
  + It’s considered a fundamental language and so all interviewers will be okay with it, whereas languages like Python are considered high level and sometimes you might not be allowed to use it. Especially when asked to code something basic, in Python it would just be a single line Eg. sort(), reverse()
  + It’s a strong object oriented language which will help you answer any conceptual questions regarding the same. Eg. Polymorphism
  + The written round is more likely to consist of C/C++ MCQ than any other language.
* Python Strengths:
  + One of the richest inbuilt libraries.
  + Syntax is closer to Pseudo code. So highly readable. So easy to explain to the interviewers.
  + Fewer lines of code.
  + Takes less time to come up with the code, which is super important in the written coding test
* You might be wondering “What about C?” which everyone learnt in their first year of college. It’s really useful as it helps you understand the basic blocks of programming. It might seem a little hard for you to actually understand behind the scenes of some concepts if you directly start with python.
* For competitive coding, it’s probably better if you choose “Faster to type” and languages with rich libraries like python.
* Pro tip: It’s never too late to start coding. Start coding on coding platforms like hackerrank, hackerearth, leetcode now; It’ll definitely help you in future. To get more insights on this, don’t forget to watch our competitive coding discussion with two of the top coders in our college on the official LCC channel on youtube.

# EP03: Does CGPA matter during Placements?

* Something along the lines of “this is not the answer given by an individual, but it's the collective opinion by the entire LLC Team summarized”
* It matters but only as an eligibility check. Doesn’t matter later on. But if your GPA is too low then you might be asked to explain about it in the interview.
* Most companies don’t have a high GPA cutoff for eligibility, so even with low GPA you will still have ample opportunity. But to be on the safer side, the average of minimum CGPA suggested by the LCC team is 8.607 ie 8.5+
* Placements will go on throughout your final year, so you still have the opportunity to get a good GPA in the upcoming sems and improve your CGPA. Meanwhile you can focus on the available companies for your GPA.
* Few things you can do to impress the panel and make them overlook your low CGPA include
  + Equipping yourself with good technical skills
  + Becoming better at coding
  + Doing great projects
  + Improve your soft skills, participate in club activities etc.

# EP04: Which subjects to focus on for Placements?

* Speaker Intro
* DSA
  + Primary: Arrays, stacks, queues, hashmaps
  + Secondary (For bigger companies): LinkedLists, Trees, Graphs
  + Asymptotic notations
  + Sorting techniques, pros and cons of each
  + Coding is the best way to learn DSA
* OOP (C++ / Java)
  + Encapsulation, Abstraction, Inheritance, Polymorphism
  + Designing given problem into OO model
  + Language specific implementation (Eg. virtual fns)
* OS
  + Scheduling algs
  + Memory hierarchy and virtual memory
  + PCB and process states
  + Threads vs Processes
  + Synchronization, deadlock etc
* Networks
  + OSI, TCP/IP layers and functions
  + IP addresses
  + Subnets (Super important for written round)
  + TCP vs UDP
  + What happens when we type [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)? (DNS and shiz)
  + DHCP, NAT, ARP, DNS etc concepts
  + Hub vs Switch vs Router
* DBMS
  + ER diagram construction
  + Normalization
  + SQL query construction
* CO, C, SE Basic Principles, Linux Programming are also good to have

# EP05: Placements - Beyond the written round

* Speaker Intro
* 4 types of rounds: GD, Tech, Managerial, HR
* What is GD? How is it conducted? Also mention that in virtual interviews GD is very rare (only 1 or 2 companies)
* What’s tech? How is it conducted? What kind of stuff is asked?
* What’s managerial? How is it conducted? What kind of stuff is asked?
* What’s HR? How is it conducted? What kind of stuff is asked?
* For our batch **on average** there were 2 rounds of tech, and 1 round of HR. Managerial was a 50 50 chance.
* Depending on company, position being offered, time available, and such other factors the number of rounds can go up or down. Some companies might combine rounds like tech + managerial. All in all expect around 2 to 4 rounds on average
* In the upcoming episode we’ll go in depth into how you can prepare for all these rounds

# EP06: Internships and Projects

* Start with the intro about the speaker.
* Something along the lines of “this is not the answer given by an individual, but it's the collective opinion by the entire LLC Team summarized”
* Most basic question which comes to mind is how many projects to add and what to add. We recommend having around 3 to 5 projects.
* It’s a good practice to tailor the projects based on the company’s requirements. If you have too many then select the best ones on which you can talk about during the interview.
* How important are projects?
  + Very important as your ideas, approach to problems and thinking ability will be judged based on projects.
  + Sometimes, the whole round can be based on your project itself.
  + Make sure to know in and out about the projects you have mentioned as there will be questions in depth about all aspects of your projects
* Good domains
  + Look for your interest.
  + Web dev, App dev, ML, DL, IOT, Bots, Network Security, Crypto, Block-Chain are some of the domains available. You can select whichever you’re comfortable with
  + A good rule of thumb is to make sure you have 1 or 2 projects in 3 to 4 domains of your choice. That way you can show the interviewers that you’re capable of tackling a wide variety of problems.
  + When a project is on a real life application, it’s an added bonus.
* It's absolutely fine if the idea behind your project is simple. They look out for how well you have understood the concepts and implemented it. Also know that while projects are important, they contribute to only 50% of the story. The other 50% comes from your understanding of DS and Algo.
* Make sure to upload your projects on GitHub and link the same on your resume. If you’ve live websites or Playstore Apps that’s even better. By going this extra mile you can expect extra points.
* When mentioning your projects on your resume, mention all the tools and technologies used. Don’t mention the detailed working and such other info, as those things can be explained during the interview.
* Now coming to internships, they are optional. Doing one will greatly help you gain industry insights.
* Internships are basically projects on steroids. If you can do it then it’s really great, but otherwise you can focus more on projects and improve on your skills. For the record, most students don’t do it.
* You can find internships through company portals, posts on LinkedIn and sometimes even advertisements on Instagram. You can also ask for referrals from your seniors. One most commonly accessed website for internships is Internshala. Thanks to corona and wfh, you can now also do virtual internships. Some websites like inside sherpa provide them. However be aware of online courses being advertised as Internships. An internship is where they pay you, not the other way round.