Module 1 Workbook

Welcome to Week 1 of the 6 Weeks to Interview Ready workbook! As you go through the course, this workbook is going to be your guide to exactly what to focus on each day of the week.

As much as possible, I have tried not only to give you the exercises and work to do in this workbook, but also the context behind them. Of course, you can just follow the exercises as prescribed, but for those who are curious, you can understand what the underlying goal is.

In Week 1, we will be working primarily to start developing a consistent study habit and evaluate your current progress. That means that this week is likely to be a challenge. You don't yet have a lot of context, so you'll be working on solving problems that may seem really difficult.

For this week in particular, focus simply on doing the best you can and tracking your progress. The whole point here is to specifically identify any problem areas, so if you run into difficulty, just make a note of it and move on.

Table of Contents

Day 1	page 2
Day 2	page 3
Day 3	page 4
Day 4	page 5
Day 5	page 6
Day 6	page 7
Day 7	page 8
Solutions	page 9

Today, we're going to develop your Lean Study Plan and get you all set up to effectively use the rest of the course. This may be a little tedious, but it's a one-time thing and it's critical for the rest of the course.

Here is your work for today:

- 1. If you haven't watched the videos for Module 1, make sure you do that. They will give you a much clearer understanding of what we're doing here.
- 2. Set up your <u>Interview Prep Tracker</u>. We need this so that we can record our progress.
- 3. Develop your Lean Study Plan. Here's what I want you to do:
 - a. Go into your calendar and find a time for each day of the week where you can have 30 minutes of uninterrupted time. Remember that this may not be easy. If it was, everyone would do it. Some places to find extra time:
 - i. First thing in the morning
 - ii. During your commute
 - iii. During your lunch break (or other breaks throughout the day)
 - iv. After everyone else goes to bed
 - b. If you are still having trouble finding times that work, I recommend completing a <u>Time Audit</u>. In the short term, this is a bit of a pain in the ass, but it can be incredibly revealing.
 - c. Put these times into your calendar for each day. What gets scheduled gets done, so if you don't put it into your calendar, it's unlikely to happen.
 - d. I would highly recommend communicating this with those close to you. If you have a spouse or significant other, let them know. They are likely to be one of your biggest distractions if you don't, but if you do, they can help function as a gatekeeper against distractions.
 - e. If you haven't already, schedule a time in your calendar to watch the <u>Supercharge Your Studying masterclass recording</u>. The strategies there are going to help you to use the time you do have dramatically more effectively.

For the rest of this week, now that you have your Lean Study Plan in place, it is your job to stick to it.

We're going to spend the next few days doing a series of representative practice problems to evaluate what topic areas you are struggling the most with. By using your Progress Tracker, you'll easily be able to see where you need some extra work.

Some key points as you go through the practice problems this week that I want you to keep in mind:

- Use your progress tracker. The more you use it, the better picture you will start to get of the state of your interview prep. It will even show you what topics you find most difficult.
- Treat the practice problems as an actual interview. Ideally, write the code on a whiteboard. If you don't have a whiteboard, use a sheet of paper.
 - See this post for more details
- If you're stuck, still give it the ole college try. That means you should spend AT LEAST 20 minutes trying to figure out the problem on your own before looking for help.

Today's Exercises

- Given a string, find the length of the longest substring without repeating characters. (<u>Leetcode</u>)
- 2. Find all occurrences of an anagram in a string. (Leetcode)

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Today's Exercises

- 1. Write a function to reverse a linked list. Ideally you should do this in place (Leetcode)
- 2. Implement a stack with basic push and pop functionality using a queue (<u>Leetcode</u>)

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Today's Exercises

- 3. Write a function to find the diameter of a tree (Leetcode)
- 4. Write a function to determine if a graph is bipartite (<u>Leetcode</u>)

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Today's Exercises

- 5. Write a function to generate a powerset, Can you do this recursively? (Leetcode)
- 6. The coin change problem (<u>Leetcode</u>)

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Today's Exercises

- 7. Find the index of an element in a rotated array (Leetcode)
- 8. Find the number of 1 digits in the binary representation of an integer (<u>Leetcode</u>)

Rest day!

Week 1 of this course is pretty intense, so I didn't schedule anything for you on this last day. Use this time to take a little break or catch up on anything you may have gotten behind on :)

Workbook Solutions

Day 2

- 1. Longest Non-Repeating Substring
- 2. Find All Anagrams

Day 3

- 1. Reverse a Linked List
- 2. Implement a Stack with a Queue

Day 4

- 1. <u>Diameter of a Tree</u>
- 2. Is Graph Bipartite

Day 5

- 1. Generate Powerset
- 2. Coin Change

Day 6

- 1. Find in Rotated Array
- 2. Number of 1s in Binary