

Interviewer: Karthik Ramasamy

Started with greeting, introduced himself and asked for my Introduction.

I just gave small introduction with name, college, location, branch and how I ended up here, and also told I have learn JCL, COBOL and DB2 here.

Asked **if we have done any projects**, so I started briefing about my project using Flow Charts.

When I went to the point where I was explaining about GDG part

Q. What is GDG?

Then I started telling everything I remember about project

Q. How many maximum generations can be created in GDG?

Then he noticed Loan_DB and Payment_db updation thing in my flow chart and asked

Q. While updating Loan_db and all did you use cursor? How did you update the table?

I told him that in my code cursor was not necessary to update, then he asked me to tell

Q. What query did I use to update query?

I was unable to recall the query so I opened my code to show the part where I used to that query, and explained him the query. After seeing my query he said

Q. After update there should be a COMMIT or something that you have to use.

I asked him back if he was talking about the COMMIT AND ROLLBACK thing? He said Yes.

Then I replied him that we're basically using just SQLCODE to understand if the SQLCODE is successful or not we were not taught how to use commit or roll back in embedded cobol.

He seemed to be not convinced with that answer, so I diverted him to next stage in flow chart.

And I started explained about Page break layout but he wasn't interested to ask anything from it.

So I proceeded to explain about JCL and then the flow of my COBOL code, then he said he understood the concept of my project and told me to move towards the technical part.

Q. Once you have written your code how do you compile it?

I was trying to explain whatever I can tell about those DB2COB, DB2BIND and DB2RUN by showing those codes in VS CODE, while I was showing DB2COB he asked

Q. There's something called DBRM, Do you know what is DBRM?**Q. What is the Purpose of DBRM?**

I tried explaining whatever theory I can recall of, then he asked

Q. Do you know there's something called TIMESTAMP?

Yes, Then I started telling about SQLCODE -818, and how we get errors if time stamps don't match, and I told recompiling the program might solve the issue cuz those timestamps get matched once recompiled, then **Q. he asked Would recompile really work?**

My look was ambiguous like I wasn't sure, so he started explaining me what actually is timestamp, that how it occurs when code is not properly compiled and how it could lead to other issues with Plan package and stuff, and he seemed to have told the same thing that recompiling would give it a new timestamp and hence it would work.

BETTER TO LEARN DBRM,PLAN AND BIND CONCEPTS, and TRY TO GET AN IDEA OF HOW DE2COB,BIND,RUN WORKS

Q. So you have something called plan and package right? So when you run it in JCL how did you run/use it?

Then I opened DB2BIND(he was expecting me to open it) and cluelessly explaining what I understood looking at DB2BIND code. And he was like oh so your DSN name is DB9G and Plan is TECN132P and was trying to understand the code himself by looking at it and he told he got it and asked to open RUNJCL.

Q. What kind of errors have you faced while compiling or running the program?

I wasn't able to recall the proper number for that -818 error code and mistakenly told -808 and he corrected me and said that should keep correct track/memorise of those numbers

I told -811 too (hehe cuz that's the only error I can explain about) then he asked

Q. Can you explain what is -811 error?

So I started telling about duplicate records, multiple records and stuff and to solve cursor stuff.

Q. Was it a individual project or team project?

I told team project.

Q. what was your part in it?

I told COBOL, DB2 and Page Break logic.

Q. Where do you define input files?

Q. What is Working-storage section?

He noticed me being a bit nervous as I wasn't able to get correct works while explaining about it and told me to be calm and feel free and think of it like a friendly discussion.

Q. What is required to define for the SQL programs to be used in COBOL?

I explained about Include SQLCA, DCL files and all and I took liberty to explain about DCLGEN too by taking example of (Text,Length) thing in Varchar to waste some time again.

Q. How do you terminate the program?

I told using STOP RUN.

Q. so you have another command than that Do you know those?

I told I've only come across only STOP RUN and GO BACK as of now, he said yeah that is what I asked you

Q. so what happens when you use the command GO BACK?

I explained it to him using sub program example, that it gives control back to main program, and I told I don't think it terminates a program.

Q. so lets say I have only one program and no subprogram, what will happen if I give go back?

I started explaining him about using it in para, and he though I'm confused and explaining him bout 'GO TO'

He interrupted me saying no and explained to me about "go to"

He told that STOP RUN and GO BACK will do same thing when used in main program (i.e terminates program) and told how stop run and goback would work in subprogram.

Q. Do you have any idea about JCL?

Yes

Q. You have used only sort and GDG right?

yes, sort utility to sort and GDG using IDCAMS

Q. so What is IDCAMS?

I started explaining how it's an utility useful for VSAM, GDG, REPRO and EMPTY FILE HANDLING

He started to conclude and started giving me some suggestions, tips and feedback.

ALL THE BEST FOR YOUR INTERVIEW!!!