## **Placement Interview Experience**

Name: Harshit Agarwal

**Department**: Information Technology

Company Name: Media.net

Job Role: Site Reliability Engineer

## **Interview Process**

(How many rounds were there and what were the rounds?):

There were a total of 4 rounds.

First Round - Online round (MCQ related to Networking and Operating System, Linux basically)

Second Round - Machine Round (Core of this round was Socket programming)

Third Round - Interview

Fourth Round - (May happen but I was hired after 3rd round.)

# Questions asked in the each stage of the process:

#### **First Round**

https://www.examveda.com/computer-science/practice-mcq-question-on-linux/

https://www.examveda.com/computer-science/practice-mcq-question-on-unix/

https://www.examveda.com/mcg-guestion-on-networking/

https://www.examveda.com/sql/practice-mcg-question-on-sql-miscellaneous/

Mostly questions were from these links, practise them.

## Second Round

https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/media-net-directi-interview-experience-for-sre-role-on-campus/https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/media-net-directi-interview-experience-on-campus/

Have a look at these, to get better insights of network programming questions of machine round, these archives are from last year only, you can find more archives on GeeksforGeeks for machine round of Directi, questions may be different but basic knowledge required is same for all. You need to practice socket programming beforehand.

#### **Third Round**

Questions were basically on basics networking and operating systems, as my projects also revolve arounds these concepts, so the interviewer never diverted to any other topic. No formality questions like tell me about yourself and all that. Firstly he asked questions from each of my projects, 1-2 questions from each project. As I told my project revolved around networks and OS, I was able to answer for what he was looking for. Then some other questions outside projects, I will try to recall some of the questions.

1. How I implemented the piping feature of Linux shell, detailed description needed.

- 2. How I implemented Linux ps command, what is virtual file system and what will happen to the proc directory if I install a hard disk from one computer to another.
- 3. How I implemented wake on lan feature
- 4. Detailed description of FTP protocol and implementation
- Detailed description of TCP protocol
- 6. They hosted questions on private IP in the second round, but they were not reachable, when they disabled proxy, questions were reachable, explain why this happened
- 7. What is private IP and ranges
- 8. What is netmasking, NAT
- 9. What happens when you type some website in your browser, detailed steps at every network layer (DNS, TCP/IP, ARP)
- 10. TCP and IP headers, explain some of the fields, they understand all the things can't be remembered
- 11. What are certificates, symmetric and asymmetric encryption
- 12. Security in http and https

That's all I remember, will update if I recall something more.

Interview lasted for around 20 minutes and was done. I was asked to wait by the interviewer but a senior member was also present during the interview, he asked if I wanted to study further and explained the SRE role and asked "karega?". I was hired.

#### **Fourth Round**

Third round for some students lasted for 2 hours, and some were even taken to the fourth round.

### Reason behind selection results

(Which skills helped you the most to get the job?/Which did you lack that prevented you from getting the job?): My deep knowledge of networking and operating systems and my projects which revolve around these concepts.

## **Preparation Strategy**

(How did you prepare for the non-interview rounds?

How did your preparation evolve for the interview rounds?):

I did not prepare much for this role, because I paid attention to my network and operating systems classes and labs. Also AB sir made us do some cool things in networks and OS labs, all thanks to him.

## Resources to prepare from -

## **Necessary Resources**(Must Do):

Some links I have updated above, go through it.

If you are from IT AB's, sir's slides and classes will do, if not ask your IT friends to provide you the slides. Learn the basics of networks and OS.

### Advanced Resources(Can Do):

System design, load balancers, AWS, database Google for resources there are plenty

# Anything else that you'd like to share with the students:

If you are not from CS/IT and still want this job but think I am from core I wont get this one, you are wrong my friend, our colleagues here at media.net some are from Mechanical, Electrical. You just need those basic stuff which I talked about and that's it. Now rest all depends how you handle the interviewer. Interview is always up to you in which direction you wanna take it. It's all about interest, if you have it in this role, you have the basic thing, now just brush up your skills.

Another thing I wanna say, if you believe you are good at something or your interest is in something else but are not getting a job in that particular domain, and your friends are getting jobs and all. Do **NOT** try to get into different stuff just for the sake of your job. I will give you my example, I wasted my time learning statistics, excel, even machine learning during placements. What I gained from this? Nothing my friend. Just wasted time learning random stuff to get a job. I could have invested that time in sharpening my current skills and learning advanced things in my domain. But in the end I got the job which suits my domain of knowledge, no matter how hard I tried to learn things which I have never done before.

## Also some advice for 3rd years, seeking for internships.

Do not go for free internships for some company and if you are not interested in further studies do not go for research internships under some IIT/NIT professors. You are helping them more and doing nothing for yourself. Go for some open source projects, if you don't have any idea consult your friends, professors for ideas. If nothing helps, find some project on the internet and implement it again all by yourself you will learn more.

I will also give my example in this, I didn't get any internship for my 3rd year break. I approached my prof. CG sir to give me a cool project idea. He asked me to design a system call for ps command, this work cleared many of my concepts and helped me learn. Also it helped me in my interview, the interviewer liked this work and asked many questions regarding this and I was able to answer all that.

### One last random stuff for all during the interview

I too read this in some interview experience.

When the interviewer offers water, always accept, firstly it will calm you down and secondly you will get that 2-3 seconds extra while drinking, utilise them in thinking if you get stuck in some question.

One thing I implemented myself and it helped.

When you don't know the answer, don't panic and think logically "what will be the most suitable answer here", tell the interviewer sir I exactly don't know the correct answer but according to me this is the most logical answer to your question which i could think. Then answer what you think and believe. When you can not think of anything which is logically correct according to you, simply say don't know, it's better not to speak rubbish.