

General Tips for Interview Preparation

Before:

During Interview:

- 1) All the professors that are interviewing you are extremely qualified in their respective field. So don't even think that you can fool them by some trick or talking some big words or just by reading something related to their areas of interest etc.
- 2) If you say that you know something they are going to ask you on that topic and if you can't answer on it probably will have negative impact on your performance, so be careful what you say you know.
- 3) That's why if they ask you something and you know it, then I personally believe that safe option is to acknowledge it and say, "sorry sir I don't know this at the moment, but I will learn it". (Again, it's your own choice)
- 4) Mostly I have seen they create questions from your previous answer (until and unless they are switching to different subject/topic) so be careful before answering.
- 5) Don't be in hurry take your time. (But not too long).
- 6) Don't be afraid of them, they are actually very helpful, and they are there to select you and not to reject you, they help you in every possible way, so take those hints from them.
- 7) It is okay if you don't know everything/every subject but whatever you say you know you should be good at it.
- 8) They are more interested in your approach of solving the problem not how much you can remember something.
- 9) They tend to ask practical questions. For ex. Any xyx concept (virtual mem, Paging etc)
they will ask—what is it? why we need it? How do we do it (from basics to high level step by step)? What are advantages/disadvantages? (And Imp) what happens if I do this and that type of ques?
In short you should know the whole story.
- 10) If you are preparing OS then virtual memory is their favorite topic to ask questions from and that too philosophical/hypothetical (check interview experience for details)
- 11) Luck indeed plays a role in your selection so if you had prepared so hard and still did not get selected, don't feel bad, we only need one good offer so keep trying, have patience and never give up.
- 12) even if you feel giving up at some point remember its totally natural and nothing bad in it. Probably take a break for a day or so but keep trying.
- 13) They ask SOP when you are filling application forms. No one has so far asked anything about my SOP. I think SOP doesn't matter for shortlisting for test/interview. But still don't write anything in SOP about which you can't talk about. They haven't but they might ask in interview.

14) Also, before interview they ask for your area of interest through a google form, please fill it out carefully. In IISc the professor had it in front of him during my interview and was asking about it to me.

15) Also, the interest you fill there, in interview you will get que from that area only and most probably you will be working in that area for you entire MS/MTech. For eg. I wrote systems in IITB so my interview happened on OS, COA, Data Strucures and now my stream is systems only where I will be working for the rest of my MS.