

Mastering the Behavioral Interview A 3-Part Series for Software Engineers

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Session 1: Foundation and Fundamentals

Opening

- Interactive icebreaker: "Share your most memorable interview experience"
- Brief introduction of Sachin's background
- Quick poll: "What aspects of behavioral interviews make you most nervous?"

Key Topics The Bar Raiser Perspective

- Why behavioral interviews matter at top tech companies
- What Bar Raisers or Hiring Managers look for beyond technical skills
- Interactive exercise: "Spot the leadership principles in action"

Senior vs Junior Engineer Expectations Leadership responsibilities

- Strategic thinking
- Cross-team collaboration
- Discussion: "What differentiates a senior engineer?"

Workshop Component

- STAR/SBI method introduction and how to make this effective with learnings and other important parts to this method
 - Practice exercise: Converting a technical achievement into the format
 - Peer feedback session
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Session 2: Advanced Response Strategies

Opening

- Recap of Session 1
- Share and discuss homework experiences
- Quick poll: "Which leadership principle is hardest to demonstrate?"

Key Topics Crafting Powerful Stories

- Story bank development
- Impact quantification
- Technical context translation
- Exercise: "Measure your impact"

Common Pitfalls

- Technical deep dives vs leadership focus
- Scope and scale demonstration
- Interactive analysis: "Good vs Bad Response Examples"

Workshop Component

- Role-play exercisesReal-time feedback from peers
- Group analysis of response structures

Session 3: Mastery and Mock Interviews

Opening

- Series recap
- Final preparation checklist

Key Topics Advanced Techniques

- Handling unexpected questions
- Demonstrating ownership
- Cross-functional leadership
- Exercise: "Navigate the Ambiguity"

Interview Psychology

- Building rapport
- Confidence vs arrogance
- Reading interviewer signals
- Discussion: "Managing Interview Stress"

Mock Interview Showcase Live mock interviews with volunteers

- Group analysis and feedback
- Best practices demonstration

Closing and Resources Key takeaways

- Additional resources
- Next steps