Additional Tips for the Phone Interview!

We wanted to share some additional tips from our interviewers for your upcoming screening interview.

- We expect you to know basic algorithms with focus on data structures manipulations.

- While it's not required that you discuss big 0 notation, it's important for you to be able to understand costs of different algorithms (which one costlier than other) etc. focus on Arrays, list, stack, hashmap, and maybe queue.

- In the initial interviews, we focus on if you have the skills to be successful as a Data Engineer at Meta. For programming, it's critical to understand when to use a data structure or when to sort rather than how to implement these data structures/sorts.

- We have questions that cover list manipulation, dict manipulation, and require moving between data types. But we do not discuss space restrictions in solutions or linked lists or other CS101 style things

- Review "ANSI SQL". You may need to use Postgres instead of MySQL for the SQL portion of the interview. The focus is still on using Basic ANSI SQL, but wanted to give you a heads up on this when it comes to syntax differences.

- You should first try to come up with a working solution (optimal or not). If it is suboptimal, the interviewer will ask you to optimize it. Since we are working with candidates on database agnostic (ANSI SQL) solutions, you should focus on basic optimization techniques. In the actual role itself, you would be expected to know database specific optimization (but this is not necessary during interview).

- You should familiarize yourself with basic optimization techniques (for example, if you write SQL which scans tables multiple times, you should be able to figure out how to optimize the query to minimize table scans).

- Write a series of SQL queries. You will be given a simple data model as a reference. A series of business questions will be presented, and you will use the data model to come up with the appropriate SQL to answer the questions.

Good luck with your interview and please don't hesitate to reach out to your recruiter if you have any additional questions!