

Preparation:

If the aptitude test is online then in most cases it is outsourced to a certain organization like cocubes and some others. You can find the Syllabus online for their tests and prepare accordingly.

1) Technical:

Select one language you want to be perfect at, know the basics of others as well. I had selected C as my language.

In general I was preparing from the standard textbooks (Let us c, Test our C skills and others) Solve each and every problem in the book clear your concepts thoroughly. I preferred leaving the coding part for the later stages of my preparation as I had focused first on clearing my aptitude test and then on my interview (coding was required at the interview and not for aptitude test).

Quants:

- I preferred solving RS AGARWAL over other CAT books and found it more than enough to clear all the aptitude tests I appeared for. Don't keep on solving each and every sum in the book focus your attention on 2 parts
- First solving all the different types of problems. Go through all the sums in a chapter and solve the different types possible.
- Then after you are done with all types focus on the speed and accuracy by solving multiple sums of same type

- 2) **Soft-Skills:** It doesn't matter how good the product is you can't sell it if it is not presented properly your soft skills help you present yourself in front of the recruiters. This cannot be developed overnight you need to have consistent practice for the GD and the interview. Some of the tips:

Interviews:

- Never Say 'NO' or 'I don't know' in an interview, say you don't remember or are not clear on the concept a direct 'NO' places you on the defensive
- NEVER LIE, this is an interview not our viva, the person sitting in front of you is much much more experienced in spotting liars and much more smart than we are. Show some respect
- Prepare the answers to standard questions
- Be prepared to be grilled on anything and everything on your resume so don't give false facts in that

Group Discussions

- Take the center seat if possible
- If you start the discussion, do so with proper topic (it may seem stupid now but people do make mistakes in that as well)

- Don't try and dominate from early stages of discussion
- Give everyone a chance to speak(not at a cost of your own turn though)
- Your nature in the discussion(aggressive or a team player) should depend on the type of job description
- At the end you should have stated one concrete point don't just talk without any sense it does not help at all.

3) **Resume:** Your resume introduces you to the interviewer before you do it yourself so work hard on it. DO NOT copy some templates from the internet, design one for yourself. Avoid cluttering it with useless facts. Design one for each profile accordingly. For example if the profile is that of a software developer then they obviously won't be interested in how much extracurricular work you have done of which committees you have been a part of so push that to the end and bring up your academics and other courses you have done to the front. In other case if the profile is that of a front end job which is non-tech and client facing where your experience in managing the committees and work in the fests will achieve you brownie points then edit accordingly. Another point which I faced difficulty in deciding was the academic scores whether to tabulate all of them or write for each year individually or just write the aggregate in one line. The simple solution to this is depending on the trend of your scores. In my case my marks had increased consistently from the first semester so I decided to tabulate them all however if yours is decreasing or inconsistent then write it for individual year and if they are consistently poor then just use one sentence.

4) **Puzzles:** Practice Practice Practice that's the key to the puzzles. Solve any puzzle you can get your hands on and solve them even if it takes multiple days to find the solutions do not look at the answers you will never develop the skill required. Some of the books will be how to ace a brainteaser interview and puzzles to puzzle you by Shakantula devi, How to move mount fuji.

INTERVIEW EXPERIENCE

FORENSICS

2 profiles were offered IT advisory and Forensics. Location: Mumbai

There was no aptitude test, only resume screening out of that 120 people were shortlisted

Round 1: Group Discussion:

General topics were given. I got, 100 days of NAMO headed in right direction or not. Everyone was praising NAMO so just to stand out, I decided to go against the motion and it worked. The main catch in the GD was each group had 8 members but time allotted for discussion was only 5 minutes so you might get only a few opportunities to speak so prepare solid concrete points so that you stand out from the others, lay them out effectively and you will clear the round easily

After GD 12 people were shortlisted for forensics(no idea for ITA)

Round 2: Tech+HR

There were no 'ice breaker' questions straightaway tech questions
Q1) what do you know about networking

Q2)given you are a Team lead design a network for SPIT
Q3)what do you know about virtualization
Q4)what is cloud?(i assumed he meant cloud computing here)
Q5) Tell me about any one of your projects or internships
Q6) How proficient are you with MS excel

Some more questions regarding the latest technologies i don't remember correctly
All in all for tech be prepared for anything and everything from networking

HR

Q1)Tell me about your family background
Q2)Given a choice between KPMG and a company X How likely is it that you will take up the job here
Q3)Sell me this pen(she was mighty impressed by my answer, this got me brownie points there i guess)
Q4)There is a lot of travelling involved are you comfortable with it?
Q5)This job will involve interacting with clients who might be very rude...how comfortable are you dealing with such people?

And other standard stuff I don't remember now

The interview kept on shuffling between the Tech guy and the HR lady so that was a good sign.

5 people were shortlisted after this round

Round 3: Interview with the director

This was a telephonic interview since the director was unable to reach the campus.

Most of the questions were repeated from the previous rounds. Some of the extra ones are

Q1)Tell me about your technical project in 1 minute
Q2)How was the experience working with the satyamev jayate team(it was my internship just after the first year)
Q3)why KPMG?
Q4)Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
Q5)What is software licensing?
Q6)Any questions from your side?

That was it for the procedure. Make your profile and resume in such a way that makes you stand out from the rest of the crowd, stay confident and get placed!!!!