 I got Google call somewhere around June. HR asked me in how much time would I feel comfortable with my preparations. The interviews were going to be only DS/Algo questions. I said, "give me a month.". I tried to solve as many questions as I could over [Leetcode](https://www.blogger.com/blog/post/edit/2210940707353586567/342983669955122815) within that time span. Still, I felt a lack of confidence.

Screening round -:

The first round was screening round based on outcome of which it is decided whether you are eligible for moving to further rounds. The question the interviewer asked was substituting all substrings within a string which exist as a key in the given map with its value. She expected me to find every corner case in my solution. The expectation also was that not only I come up with all the clarifications at each step from my side but solutions as well. After she got satisfied with my solution, she modified it asking what if the value itself is a key. I did not have time left to code but I could tell her my approach with which she seemed quite satisfied.

I got call a day later that I have passed the screening and I had to give my availability for all the next rounds. The HR also told me about the feedback of screening round. She said my speed of thinking and coding was satisfactory however I could not come up with corner cases myself.

First round -:

The question was that you are given some buildings of varying height. And you are given a rope of length b and r number of bricks each of 1 unit length. You could use a brick or a rope only once and they were needed only when you had to climb up i.e., the next building's height was greater than the current building you are on. You had to tell whether you could cross all the buildings.

The first solution I gave was directly DP:). However, the interviewer said that dp could be quite costly since its cost would be r\*b\*(addition of total height diff when the diff is positive).

So I started thinking a greedy approach and I was almost near the solution then the interviewer interrupted and gave me a hint. I coded the solution. He asked me whether I see any issues. I found one and fixed. He said there was one more issue which I could not get even going through multiple times. Finally he said that I initialized a variable within for loop which I was using outside:)

Then he modified the question asking what if we had to find out how many buildings we could cross. Here was the main issue. Instead of thinking, I directly jumped to modifying the solution which he said won't work. He repeatedly gave me hints why but I could not get them. Finally he gave me the direct hint and I said oh, right. Then I gave him my solution which he got satisfied with. I had only 5 minutes left still I could code it however there wasn't time for him to review.

Second round -:

The question was related to binary search or heap which I don't exactly remember. I could give a brute force solution and the optimized approach but till the time of optimization time wasn't there to code it.

Third round -:

This was the worst round for me. The question was finding number of islands i.e. Given a matrix of 1 and 0 where 1 represented land and 0 water, island was maximum connected land. The problem here was the question given was very vague consisting only the words islands and continents and it was understood that I understood the given definitions by myself which I most certainly didn't. I took almost 15 minutes to understand all definitions. This set up the tone of the interview already. I fumbled a lot while giving the solution. When finally, I could tell the correct approach, it had passed around 40 minutes and I had 5 minutes left only to code it which I couldn't though I tried.

Fourth round -:

It was a behavioural round. The interviewer asked many scenario-based questions like -:

* If I am running a start-up of product like Amazon, and I get two issues from customer one is related to clothes and another to mobile phone at the same time which problem I would give preference to.
* If a colleague of yours takes away the credit of your work, what will you do? What if it's your manager?
* The most challenging work you have ever undertaken and completed?

After some time, I got call from HR saying my first and third round had negative feedback, so it was not possible to move forward.