

Seven ways to ace your first *data science* interview

faculty

So, you've made it past the application stage and been invited to your first interview for a data science role. What can you expect from your interview?

Here's seven tips to help you put your best foot forward on the day.



01 Put things in *perspective*

Remember, your interviewer wants you to succeed; they want to find the perfect candidate just as much as you want to get the job. When you go into an interview, think of it as a chance for you and your interviewer to work together to understand if you're right for the role - it will help enormously with your nerves.

02 Use the job description as *your checklist*

Take a pen and paper and write down how your skills and experience relate to each of the requirements in the job description. By the time you attend the interview, you'll be fluent and comfortable explaining why you are the best candidate for the job.



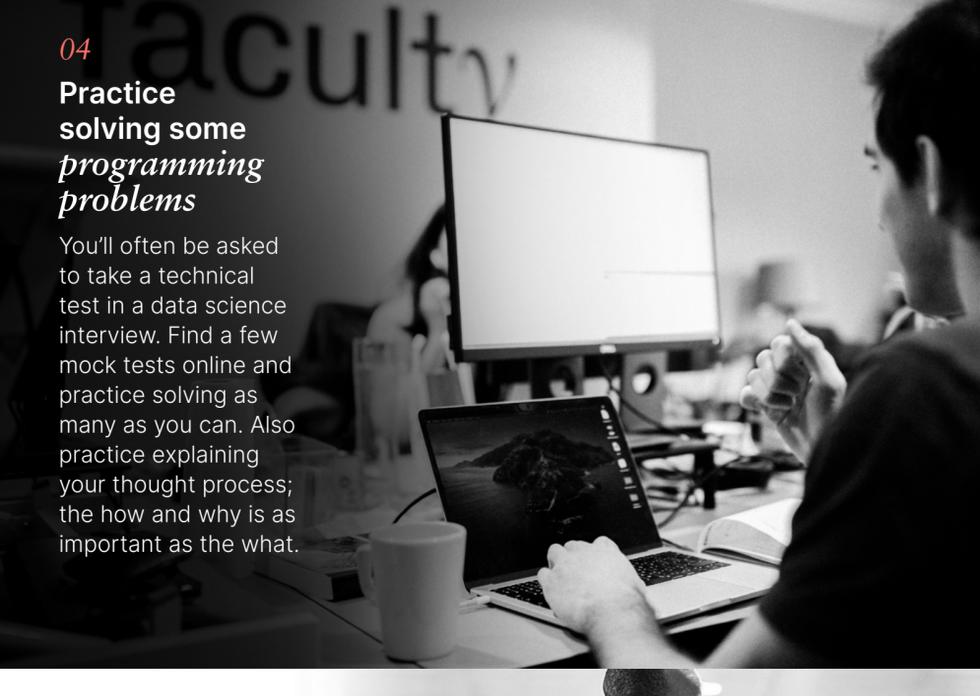
03 Communicate in *simple language*

You'll need to be credible, confident and articulate to help businesses understand the potential of data science, so they'll be looking for someone that can communicate technical concepts in terms that non-technical teams can understand.



04 Practice solving some *programming problems*

You'll often be asked to take a technical test in a data science interview. Find a few mock tests online and practice solving as many as you can. Also practice explaining your thought process; the how and why is as important as the what.



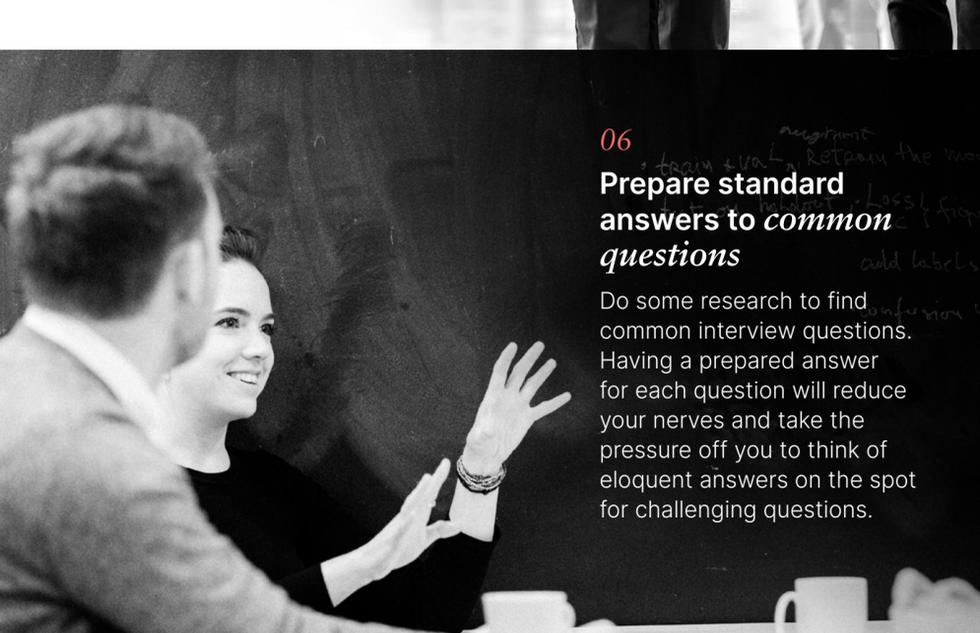
05 Be familiar with *how data science is used in that industry*

Understanding the industry you'll be working in and the role of data science will allow you to show your personal interest in the goals of the business and give you a good indication of what you will be working on.



06 Prepare standard answers to *common questions*

Do some research to find common interview questions. Having a prepared answer for each question will reduce your nerves and take the pressure off you to think of eloquent answers on the spot for challenging questions.



07 Prepare questions to *ask interviewers*

In most interviews, they will give you an opportunity to ask questions. Prepare a couple in advance, but make sure the information isn't provided in the job description or company website. To play it safe, you can ask about the team, company culture, or progression.



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