

Finance Interview Advice

- Spring weeks, summer internships and grad roles all have different interview formats and are assessing different things.
 - Getting a spring week is about enthusiasm and soft skills, not finance knowledge (prior experience in the sector is not a requirement)
 - Grad roles have far higher pre-knowledge expectations.
- Keep commercial awareness up to date for all interviews.
 - Research answers to 100 Commercial Awareness questions also on the website.
 - Read the business news.
 - Try to research one 'different' news story, e.g. not just rising interest rates.
- Interviews
 - General Motivation: use the 'STAR' method — situation, task, answer, result
 - Why the firm? Check out firm's website for 'core values' and 'agendas' for corresponding year.
 - Prepare examples of when you have used skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, overcoming a challenge.
 - Show intellectual curiosity and drive in researching market understanding. "Demonstrate how you have shown a real interest in finance."
 - If you read the Economist or research crypto, why? What have you learned?
 - See Investment Management questions for more technical questions to consider.
 - Some companies may test approach to mathematical reasoning or logic questions.
 - Practise mental maths, little and often!
 - You may be asked to pitch a stock. See Investment Management Questions for more technical advice.
- Resources
 - Sign up to <https://amplifyme.com/market-maker> to keep up to date with the industry
 - Oxford's CapitOx Society have a termly M&A Programme
 - GAIN (Girls are Investors) has a useful page of questions to consider before an interview:
<https://www.gainuk.org/interview-preparation/the-34-interview-questions-standing-between-you-and-your-next-job>
 - Oxford's Alpha Fund Bootcamp/ Stock Pitch competitions