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## **BANKING E-BOOK – [WHATWILLTHEYASK.COM](http://www.whatwilltheyask.com)**

Below is a list of some of the current banking and finance job interviews listed on what will they ask. Please feel free to share this e-book with your friends or provide it as a resource on your web site.

Keep coming back to the site for new interview questions, tips, advice and much more to help you find the perfect job.

### **Auditor - Wolverhampton city council**

Date of Interview - 12th April 2005

Round - 1 of 1

Notes on the interview - Talking about recent developments in the audit field. How do you feel these have effected public sector auditing?

What qualities do you feel you possess that help you perform as an effective auditor?

How has your previous experience prepared you to take on a management role?

How would you ensure that your audit team worked effectively and met deadlines?

What would you do if a member of your audit team was under performing?

What do you understand by the term equality, and how would you ensure equality in the workplace? (standard question for all local government jobs)

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### **Trainee econometrician - Mediacom**

Date of Interview - June 2005

Interview Round - only one round

General Setup of Interview - Two interviewers - 2 hour interview - Fairly informal chat.

Asked some simple econometrics questions about interpreting the main statistics from a regression output.

Conducted a short presentation to show I knew how to use excel and the basics of marketing - the type of factors that promoted volume sales.

Four 'p's that kind of thing. Asked me a lot about econometrics at university - what I had done. Also what I enjoyed about econometrics/my education, why I applied for the job, what I like/know about the advertising industry. Asked about my interests - who I'd like to play me in a movie that kind of stuff.

Interestingly no formal HR questions were asked, like strengths and weakness type thing (which was a plus).

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### **Financial consultant - Perfect days**

Position - Financial Consultant

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Date of Interview - 9th August 2005

Round - 1 of 4

Notes on the interview - The first interview was a telephone interview. The guy on the other end of the phone was very enthusiastic. He asked lots of questions concerning what I wanted from life, whether I was money or success led and what were my main motivations for the position. Very unstructured interview which allows both parties to get a feel for each other.

Date of Interview - 15th August 2005

Round - 2 of 4

Notes on the interview - This was an interview within the office with one of the partners. It was the same person that I had spoken to on the phone. The interview was pretty much exactly the same of the one before. It gave a few more opportunities to ask questions but very little was given away. If you were still keen after this point you are invited to an afternoon where they sell you the company and the position. It seemed to me that the job was more of a sales job rather than a financial position. The idea that they encouraged you to sell to friends and family made me personally a little uncomfortable and hence didn't go any further.

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## **Graduate trainee - KPMG**

Position - Graduate

Date of Interview - 2nd February 2003

Round - 1 of 2

Notes on the interview - Having taken and passed the online maths test there was an interview with a senior member of staff. Note that the final round interview is with a partner. The interview was a mixture of questions about your knowledge and about yourself.

It began with talking about an industrial sector that was of interest to you and the wider world at the moment. I talked about open source software. The interviewer asked why this sector was important, what the future held for it and then more specific questions taken from my previous answers.

The second section was the usual interview questions. Give me an example of when you've worked in a team. Tell me about a time you've overcome a problem. When have you worked under pressure. Very standard.

The interview ended with a verbal reasoning test.

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## **Knowledge executive - PriceWaterhouseCooper**

Position - Knowledge Executive

Date of Interview - 9th November 2005

Round - 1 of 2

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Notes on the interview - Although I knew my chances for getting this job were very low as they required some experience I decided to go for it in anyway. The first interview was the standard interview set up. The person who's position I was going for and the internal HR person. It lasted about 40 mins and I was quite relaxed as they were very nice people. Questions Asked: Interview 1 - Standard Questions (Why PWC, tell me a time.....)

Round - 2 of 2

Notes on the interview - I made it to the second round and was interviewed by the two heads of Knowledge Management. I can only say it was the most mentally exhausting interview I have been to. I was instantly put on the spot, hardly caught a smile from the interviewer and with every question I answered I was thrown a counter-question that in most cases completely contradicted me or had me digging my-self out of quicksand.

Questions Asked: Interview 2 - You have 3 minutes, tell me everything you know about Knowledge Management.

You have 1 minute, the CEO doesn't have a clue about Knowledge Management. Sell it to him. If I have an argument with your other boss and we both tell you to do two different projects at the same time, what will you do?

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## **Graduate telephone interview - HSBC**

Position - Graduate trainee

Date of Interview - October 2007

Round - 1 of 3

Notes on the interview - The interview is a fairly standard telephone interview that lasts about half an hour.

Questions asked - In the telephone interview they will ask you why you want to work for HSBC?

Where do you see yourself in five to ten years?

What skills do you have?

Where have you worked previously?

Tips - Just try and be calm and sound confident

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## **Graduate one to one - HSBC**

Position - Graduate retail banking trainee

Date of Interview - October 2007

Round - 3 of 3

Notes on the interview - This is a one-to-one interview and involves conducting role play with the interviewer.

Questions asked - They ask you:

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- why you want to work at HSBC
- about a time where you had to meet a certain deadline - generally better to make this something outside education if you want to stand out from the crowd

They want you to go in more depth, e.g. when did you have to meet the deadline for, did you achieve the deadline, what could you have done differently etc.

In the role play they give you a sheet of paper and you have ten minutes to read it. The paper contains details of a savings account. Then you have to act as the advisor and the interviewee is the customer. She states that she has an account and want a savers account. Then she asks specific details relating to the account such as: how much would she would save, discounts associated with the account, etc.