

Demographics

- 1.) Gender
- 2.) Education
- 3.) Occupation (current/previous roles)
- 4.) Years of software development experience
- 5.) Programming language competencies
- 6.) Size of company (or previous company)

Interview Questions

1.) Do you refer to free online sources or community question and answer portals for help or to contribute? (Stack Overflow, Reddit, Yahoo Answers, Quora, Codidact, Unreal Engine Forum, Apple Dev Center, Nvidia Forum, LaTeX Forum, Cross Validated, Unity Forum, Arduino Forums, MS Forum, Oracle Forum, Expert Exchange)

1a.) How long have you been using CQA platform(s)?

2.) Which of these communities do you use?

2a.) How frequently do you use it/them? (Daily, Weekly, Monthly)

3.) Why do you use this/these particular online portal(s)? (e.g. **Stack Overflow**)

3a.) What form of help do you seek on the portal, and do you normally find this help? **OR** What form of contribution do you provide?

3b.) When looking for help, do you receive answers to specific questions or search for solutions provided in answers for other questions?

4.) How do you judge the quality of code in the answers posted on the portals you use?

4a.) Please reflect on some of your experiences while using the platform in terms of the quality of code (positive(s) and/or negative(s))?

4b.) Have you ever had any issues in the past?

4c.) What type of issues have you encountered?

4d.) Could you provide some specific examples?

4e.) How about noteworthy positive experiences?

5.) When using the portal, if you have more than one solution provided for your problem, why would you pick one over the other? What is the motivation for this decision?

6.) The **standard quality models** cover key areas of Software Quality, including Functionality, Efficiency, Maintainability, Usability, Reliability, Portability, Compatibility and Security. At the same time, others have tended to focus on **CQA code snippet quality** along the dimensions of Security, Readability, Reusability and Completeness. Which ones in the list do you believe are particularly relevant to the quality of **Stack Overflow** code snippets and code freely available online more generally?

7.) Are there other aspects of quality not discussed that you find important when assessing CQA code snippets?

8.) Do you have any other suggestions or comments regarding code quality on online portals or about this interview?

Note: please provide your email address if you would like to receive a copy of the results of our study.