

Question 5

After looking through the different algorithms I have ranked them like this:

1. Merge Sort - $O(n \log n)$
2. Quick Sort - $O(n \log n)$
3. Shell Sort - $O(n^2)$
4. Insertion Sort - $O(n^2)$
5. Selection Sort - $O(n^2)$
6. Bubble Sort - $O(n^2)$

I ranked these algorithms this way mainly due to their asymptotic complexity. Merge and Quick, give us an optimal time complexity of $O(n \log n)$. I ranked quick sort under merge though because quick sort can sometimes perform in n^2 , but still operates faster than shell sort which is why I put it ahead of shell sort. In terms of the last 3 sorts, they all have a time complexity of $O(n^2)$, but ranked insertion ahead of selection and bubble, because when tending to small or nearly sorted arrays it operates way faster than selection and bubble sort.