



**TASK**

# Data Types and Conditional Statements

Model Answer Approach

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## Auto-graded Task 1

This approach uses built-in functions and string methods like `input()`, `len()` and `replace()`, as well as string slicing for manipulation. It is well-suited for this task because we can easily read, return, and manipulate the input string to get the desired output by using the built-in functions and string methods. Be wary that overwriting the variable `str_manip` with the manipulated string might lead to unexpected outputs.

## Auto-graded Task 2

The approach makes use of `input()`, `int()` and `print()` functions, variable usage, and arithmetic operations for integer manipulation. It is well-suited for this task because it keeps the code simple and easy to read. A common confusion for some students is not yet fully understanding that the `input()` function returns a string value by default, and the `int()` function will need to be used for arithmetic operations to be performed on the input values.

## Auto-graded Task 3

In this approach, the `input()` and `int()` functions are used to perform arithmetic operations on the input values. The `if-elif-else` statement is used in conjunction with the comparison and logical operators to determine the award that the participant will receive. This approach is well-suited for this task because it simply checks the total time against the given qualifying times and prints the appropriate award based on the result. Common mistakes include not using the correct comparison operators in the condition checks.