P1 A. The current state {C, F} has an error of 8. The states for the next step are {C}, {F}, {C, D, F}, {C, E, F}, {C, F, G}, {C, F, H} with errors 1, 10, 22, 16, 11, 9. The best neighbor is $S = \{C\}$, where the cost is Error(S) = max(18-18, 0) + max(20-19, 0) = 1.

As we're using hill-climbing, there is no better error smaller than Error({C}), thus in the next iteration no update will be made and the set {C} is the result.

B. The state space size is 2^N as each object can either be taken or not.

Let the current state have m objects then there are m objects to be deleted and (N-m) objects to be added. The maximum number of neighbors is N where at most (N-m)+m=N objects can be either added or deleted.