### 2) Challenge: Reverse "RWANDA" with a stack

Below is a clear algorithmic sequence with the corresponding code lines and explanation **for each step**.

Goal: input "RWANDA"  $\rightarrow$  output reversed "ADNAWR".

#### **Algorithm (step-by-step)**

- 1. Initialize an empty stack.
- 2. For each character c in the input string (left  $\rightarrow$  right), push c onto the stack.
  - o This puts the first character at the bottom and last character at the top.
- 3. Initialize an empty result buffer (list of chars).
- 4. While the stack is not empty, pop the top character and append it to the result buffer.
  - o Popping yields characters in reverse order.
- 5. Join the result buffer into a string and return it.

# 3) Challenge: Queue vs Stack for handling voter lines — which is correct?

**Short answer:** Use a **queue** (**FIFO**) for voter lines. FIFO serves people in arrival order, which is the standard fairness model for a line.

Algorithmic sequence + code lines (explicit mapping)

#### **Algorithm:**

- 1. Initialize an empty queue.
- 2. As each voter arrives, enqueue them at the back of the queue.
- 3. When a voting booth (or server) becomes free, dequeue the front voter and serve them.
- 4. Code (with comments mapping to steps):

## 4) Reflection (theoretical only)

## a) Why does a stack work for undo but not (by itself) for redo actions?

- Undo follows LIFO: the last action performed is the first action we want to reverse. A single stack holding action history fits undo perfectly pop() returns the last action to undo.
- **Redo** requires remembering undone actions in their original order so you can re-apply them. If you simply pop actions off the undo-stack and lose them, you cannot redo. Therefore, most editors use **two stacks**:
  - 1. **Undo stack** push actions as they happen.
  - 2. When you undo: pop from undo stack and push the popped action onto the **redo** stack.
  - 3. To redo: pop from the redo stack and reapply (and then push it back onto the undo stack).
- Important subtlety: if the user performs a **new action** after some undos, the redo stack is typically cleared — because the timeline changed and old redo actions are no longer valid.
- So: **stack alone** supports undo; **redo** requires additional state (usually a second stack) and care about when to clear redo history.

#### b) Why FIFO creates fairness in elections?

- **FIFO** (**First-In**, **First-Out**) ensures **procedural fairness**: service order is determined only by arrival time, not by identity, influence, or other attributes.
- This reduces incentives to manipulate or "cut in line" and provides a predictable, auditable order. For voting, FIFO helps ensure that voters are served in a neutral, nondiscriminatory way.
- Caveats:
  - o FIFO is fair **relative to arrival time** it does not compensate for differences in ability to arrive early (so additional accessibility measures may be needed).
  - Practical systems sometimes include exceptions (priority lanes for disabled/elderly, scheduled appointments), but the default impartial policy is FIFO for fairness and transparency.