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Two Characters

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Problem

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String t always consists of two distinct alternating characters. For example, if string t 's two distinct characters are x and y , then t could be $xyxyx$ or $yxyxy$ but *not* $xxyy$ or $xyyx$.

You can convert some string s to string t by deleting characters from s . When you delete a character from s , you must delete *all* occurrences of it in s . For example, if $s = \text{abaacdabd}$ and you delete the character a , then the string becomes $bcdbd$.

Given s , convert it to the longest possible string t . Then print the length of string t on a new line; if no string t can be formed from s , print 0 instead.

Input Format

The first line contains a single integer denoting the length of s .

The second line contains string s .

Constraints

- $1 \leq |s| \leq 1000$
- s only contains lowercase English alphabetic letters (i.e., a to z).

Output Format

Print a single integer denoting the maximum length of t for the given s ; if it is not possible to form string t , print 0 instead.

Sample Input

```
10
beabeefab
```

Sample Output

```
5
```

Explanation

The characters present in s are a , b , e , and f . This means that t must consist of *two* of those characters.

If we delete e and f , the resulting string is $babab$. This is a valid t as there are only two distinct characters (a and b), and they are alternating within the string.

If we delete a and f , the resulting string is $bebeeeb$. This is not a valid string t because there are *three* consecutive e 's present.

If we delete only e , the resulting string is $babfab$. This is not a valid string t because it contains *three* distinct characters.

Thus, we print the length of $babab$, which is **5**, as our answer.

Submissions: [20362](#)

Max Score: 20

Difficulty: Easy

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Current Buffer (saved locally, editable)

C++14



```
1 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
2 using namespace std;
3
4 string a2z="abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz";
5 int main()
6 {
7     string s;
8     int leng, max=0;
9     cin>>leng; cin>>s;
10    char ns[s.length()];
11
12    for(unsigned int i=0;i<26;i++)          //loop 1
13    {
14        char a=a2z[i]; // comparing each alphabet from A 2 Z.
15        for(unsigned int l=0;l<26;l++)      //loop 2
16        {
17            char b=a2z[l];
18            int k=0;
19
20            for(unsigned int j=0;j<leng;j++)  //loop 3
21            {
22                if(s[j]==a||s[j]==b)
23                {
24                    //cout<<s[j]<<" "<<i<<" "<<k<<endl;
25                    ns[k++]=s[j];
26                    //cout<<ns[k]<<endl;
27                }
28            }
29            ns[k]='\0'; //cout<<ns[k]<<endl;
30            bool flag=true;
31
32            for(unsigned int j=0;j<k;j++)      //loop 4
33            {
34                //cout<<ns[j]<<" ";
35                if(ns[j]==ns[j+1])
36                {
37                    flag=false;
38                    break;
39                }
40            }
41
42            if(flag && s.length()>1)
43            {
44                if(max<k)
45                {
46                    max=k;
47                    //string Ans=ns;
48                    //cout<<"Ans:"<<Ans;
49                }
50            }
51        }
52    }
53    cout<<max<<endl;
54    return 0;
55 }
```

Line: 52 Col: 2

 Upload Code as File ☐ Test against custom input

Run Code

Submit Code

Congrats, you solved this challenge!

Challenge your friends:

- ✓ Test Case #0

✓ Test Case #3

✓ Test Case #6

✓ Test Case #9

✓ Test Case #12

✓ Test Case #15

✓ Test Case #18

✓ Test Case #21

✓ Test Case #24

✓ Test Case #27

✓ Test Case #30
- ✓ Test Case #1

✓ Test Case #4

✓ Test Case #7

✓ Test Case #10

✓ Test Case #13

✓ Test Case #16

✓ Test Case #19

✓ Test Case #22

✓ Test Case #25

✓ Test Case #28
- ✓ Test Case #2

✓ Test Case #5

✓ Test Case #8

✓ Test Case #11

✓ Test Case #14

✓ Test Case #17

✓ Test Case #20

✓ Test Case #23

✓ Test Case #26

✓ Test Case #29

You've earned 20.00 points.

Next Challenge