





```
public String stringX(String str) {
   String result = "";  // to hold my answer
   // if str contains 1 char, just return it. if str contains 2 chars, just
return it. EDGE CASES!
   if (str.length() <= 2){
        return str;
   }
   // we know to reach this spot in the code, we must have at least 3 chars
in str
   result += str.charAt(0);  // whether 'x' or not, we keep the first char
   // i starts with 1 because we have handled index 0 with line above
   for (int i = 1; i < str.length() - 1; i++){        // condition will stop 1 char
   before last, so we can save that if 'x'
        if (str.charAt(i) != 'x'){
            result += str.charAt(i);
        }
   }
   // now have to append the last char
   result += str.charAt(str.length() - 1);  // add last char whether 'x' or
not</pre>
```

```
return result;
```