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Pencil and Paper Assignment for Lesson 7

___D___ 1. What happens when the following is compiled/run?

```
class MyClass {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        new MyClass();  
    }  
    MyClass() {  
        recurse("Hello");  
    }  
    String recurse(String s){  
        if(s==null) return null;  
        int r = RandomNumbers.getRandomInt();  
        int n = s.length();  
        if(r % 2 == 0)  
            return recurse(s.substring(0,n/2));  
        else {  
            return recurse(s.substring(n/2,n));  
        }  
    }  
}
```

1. Compiler error
2. Returns a null value
3. NullPointerException
4. StackOverflowError

answer :

answer is StackOverflowError because the recursive functions doesn't have the correct termination condition, so it ends up calling itself nonstop.

What happens when the following is compiled/run? You may assume that the method permute is implemented correctly elsewhere, and that it has the effect of randomly rearranging the characters of a String (for instance, on different runs of permute with input “events”, the return values could be, for example, “evtsen”, “eestnv” and “evenst”).

```
class MyClass {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        new MyClass();
    }
    MyClass() {
        recurse("Hello");
    }
    String recurse(String s){
        if (s==null || s.equals("")) return "";
        int n = s.length();
        String t = permute(s); //rearrange characters of s return recurse(t);
    } }
}
```

1. Compiler error
2. Returns a null value
3. NullPointerException
4. StackOverflowError

answer

StackOverflowError: because we fail to establish when the recursion should stop, and thus the function/method will keep calling itself "forever" (until it causes the error).

