Problem Set 3 Exercise #19: Merge Lists

Reference: Lecture 7 notes **Learning objective:** Sorting

Estimated completion time: 60 minutes

Problem statement:

Merge Sort is an advanced sorting technique (which is covered in CS1020). Here, we are not going to explain how Merge Sort works, but focus on one idea employed in Merge Sort, i.e. merging two sorted lists into a bigger sorted list.

For instance, given two <u>sorted</u> lists $\{-3, 8, 65, 100, 207\}$ and $\{-10, 20, 30, 40, 65, 80, 90\}$, the merged list would be $\{-10, -3, 8, 20, 30, 40, 65, 65, 80, 90, 100, 207\}$.

Write a program **PS3_Ex19_MergeLists.java** to read two sorted lists of integers and merge them in non-descending order.

Your program should contain the following static method to read elements into a list and return it:

```
int[] readList(Scanner sc)
```

and another static method:

```
void mergeLists(int[] list1, int[] list2, int[] list3)
```

to merge list1 and list2 into list3 such that elements in list3 are still arranged in non-descending order.

You should avoid using nested loop in this question.

Sample run #1:

```
Number of elements in list1: 3
Enter 3 elements: 1 3 5
Number of elements in list2: 3
Enter 3 elements: 2 4 6
Merged list: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

Sample run #2:

```
Number of elements in list1: 5
Enter 5 elements: -3 8 65 100 207
Number of elements in list2: 7
Enter 7 elements: -10 20 30 40 65 80 90
Merged list: [-10, -3, 8, 20, 30, 40, 65, 65, 80, 90, 100, 207]
```