

Question 1: *Is it more or less efficient to use a hashmap or linked list when trying to search for an element? Explain and give an example for each scenario.*

It is more efficient to use a hashmap than a linked list to search for an element. Using a linked list, all the items are stored sequentially, so you would have to search through the list one at a time. The time complexity would be  $O(n)$ . A hashmap on the other hand uses an array which holds the values in a linked list. If the hash function is decent, then the number of values in each index (bucket) will be relatively the same. So, the time complexity would be around  $O(1)$ , because you are able to jump straight to the index where the item is held and only have to search through a few elements at most.