Quick Sort

Definition:

Quick Sort is a **divide and conquer** algorithm that selects a **pivot** element, partitions the array into two parts (left: smaller, right: larger), and then recursively sorts the two parts.

Real-Life Analogy:

Socho tumhare paas ek group of people hai jinko height ke hisaab se line mein lagana hai.

- 1. Tum randomly ek aadmi ko pivot choose karte ho.
- 2. Baaki sabse compare karte ho:
 - Jo pivot se chhote hain → uske left mein
 - o Jo bade hain → right mein
- 3. Ab dono sides ko alag-alag sort karo yahi hota hai recursion.

C Code: Quick Sort (with Partition Logic)

#include <stdio.h>

```
// Partition function to place pivot correctly
int partition(int arr[], int low, int high) {
  int pivot = arr[high]; // last element as pivot
  int i = low - 1;
                    // index of smaller element
  for(int j = low; j < high; j++) {
    if(arr[j] < pivot) {
       i++;
       // Swap arr[i] and arr[j]
       int temp = arr[i];
       arr[i] = arr[j];
       arr[j] = temp;
    }
                                                    {10, 80, 30, 90, 40,
  }
                                                               Partition around
                                                               70 (Last element)
                                    {10, 30, 40,
                                                                                       {90, (80)
                        Partition around
                                                                                                   Partition around 80
                        50
                              {10, 30, 40}
                                                                                                   {90}
                                                     { }
                                                                                     { }
                      Partition
                      around
                           {10, (30)
                      40
                                       Partition
                                       around 30
```

```
// Place pivot in the correct position
  int temp = arr[i + 1];
  arr[i + 1] = arr[high];
  arr[high] = temp;
  return i + 1; // New pivot position
}
// Recursive quick sort function
void quickSort(int arr[], int low, int high) {
  if(low < high) {</pre>
     int pi = partition(arr, low, high); // Partitioning index
     quickSort(arr, low, pi - 1);
                                     // Left of pivot
     quickSort(arr, pi + 1, high); // Right of pivot
  }
}
int main() {
  int arr[] = {10, 7, 8, 9, 1, 5};
  int size = sizeof(arr) / sizeof(arr[0]);
  quickSort(arr, 0, size - 1);
  printf("Sorted array: ");
  for(int i = 0; i < size; i++) {
     printf("%d ", arr[i]);
  }
  return 0;
}
```

Step-by-Step Explanation

- 1. Pick a **pivot** (usually last element).
- 2. Partition:
 - o Place elements < pivot to its left
 - o pivot to its right
- 3. Recursively apply Quick Sort to left and right subarrays.

```
Pseudocode (For Notes/Exams)
quickSort(arr, low, high):
   if low < high:
      pi = partition(arr, low, high)
      quickSort(arr, low, pi - 1)
      quickSort(arr, pi + 1, high)

partition(arr, low, high):
   pivot = arr[high]
   i = low - 1
   for j = low to high-1:
      if arr[j] < pivot:
        i++
      swap arr[i] with arr[high]</pre>
```

Time Complexity

return i + 1

Case	Time
Best Case	O(n log n)
Average Case	O(n log n)
Worst Case	$O(n^2)$ (when array is already sorted and bad pivot is chosen)
Space	O(log n) due to recursion stack

Use When:

- Fast and efficient sorting is required
- Memory is limited (in-place)
- Data is large and randomly distributed