Challenge Statement

Imagine a file in the following fixed format:

<unique record identifier><white_space><numeric value>

e.g.

 1426828011
 9

 1426828028
 350

 1426828037
 25

 1426828056
 231

 1426828058
 109

 1426828066
 111

 .
 .

•

•

Write a program that reads from 'stdin' the contents of a file, and optionally accepts the absolute path of a file from the command line. The file/stdin stream is expected to be in the above format. The output should be a list of the unique ids associated with the X-largest values in the rightmost column, where X is specified by an input parameter. For example, given the input data above and X=3, the following would be valid output:

1426828028 1426828066 1426828056

Note that the output does not need to be in any particular order. Multiple instances of the same numeric value count as distinct records of the total X. So if we have 4 records with values: 200, 200, 115, 110 and X=2 then the result must consist of the two IDs that point to 200 and 200 and no more.

Your solution should take into account extremely large files.

What to return back to us

- 1. Your code in the language of your preference. If it's in Python, Java or C++ it's preferable for us.
- 2. Include in your code comments about your solution's algorithmic complexity for both time and memory.
- 3. Include instructions on how to build and run your code in a README file. Please include operating system information if necessary.
- 4. Provide tests for your code to illustrate it works and it's robust.
- 5. Please zip everything in a directory named your first.lastname/ and return via email.
- 6. In your email response please let us know roughly how many hours you spent for this exercise.

Notes

- For your reference, successful candidates reported to have spent approximately 10 hours on average on this challenge.
- Write your project as if it will be reviewed by your peers and ultimately deployed to production.