

⑥ → Merge Two Sorted Lists -

① → Question

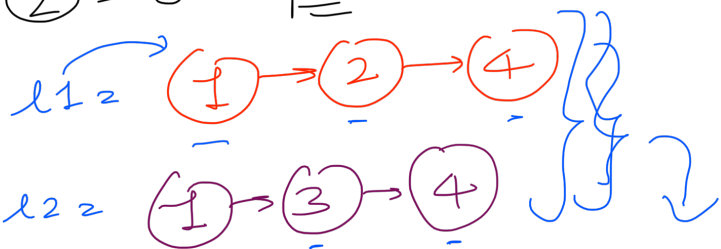
Given the heads of two sorted linked lists

list1 and list2

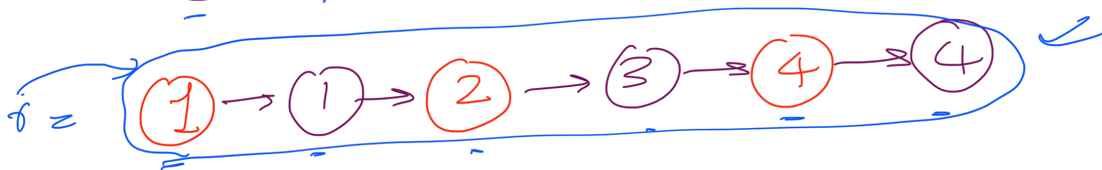
Merge the two lists in one sorted list. The list should be made by splicing together the nodes of the first two lists.

Return the head of merged linked list.

② → Example -



Not creating a new list



list1 = [1, 2, 4]

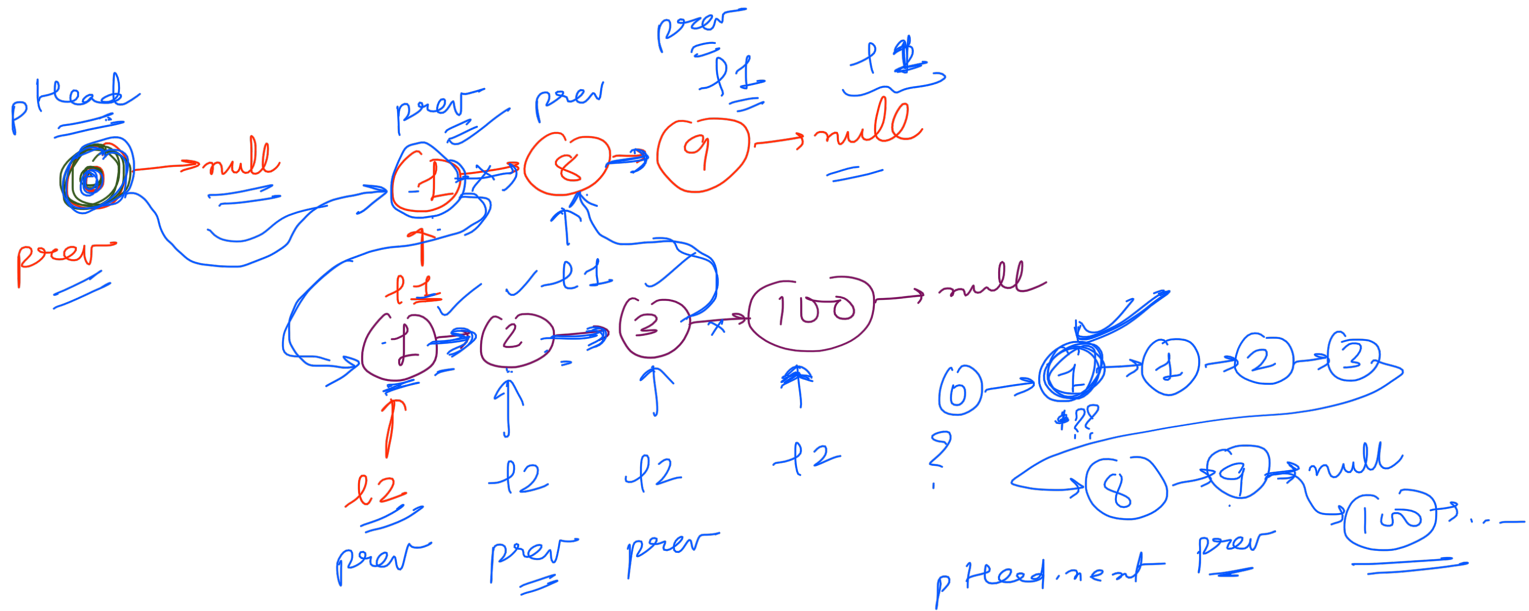
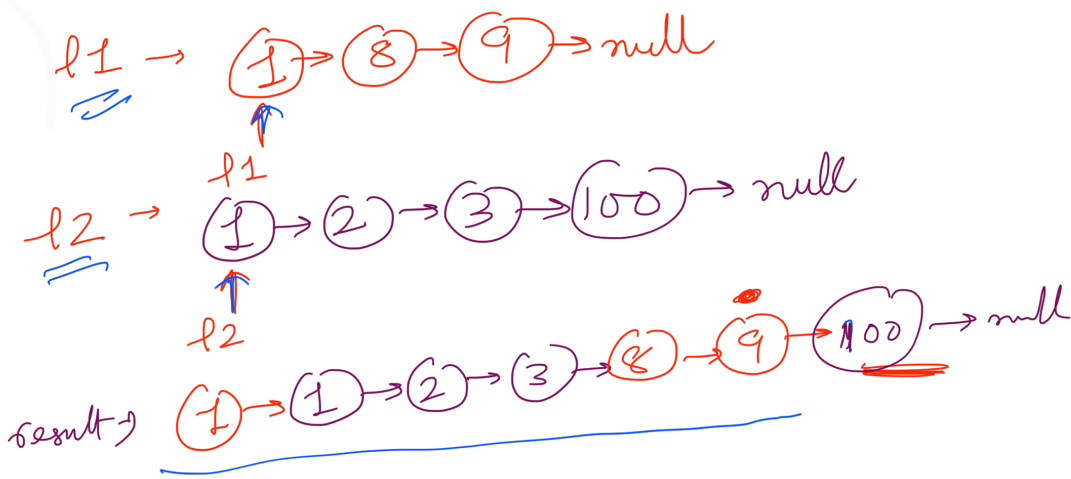
list2 = [1, 3, 4]

→ [1, 1, 2, 3, 4, 4]

③ → Intuition ? -

$$lR = \begin{cases} l1[0] + \langle l1[1..], l2 \rangle & \text{if } l1[0] \leq l2[0] \\ l2[0] + \langle l1, l2[1..] \rangle & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

④ → Optimized Solution -



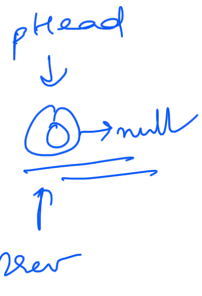
⑤ Time & space complexity-

$$T = O(\text{len}(l1) + \text{len}(l2)) \quad O(\text{len}(l1) + \text{len}(l2))$$

$$S = O(1)$$

⑥ Code walkthrough-

ListNode mergeTwoLists(ListNode l1, ListNode l2) {

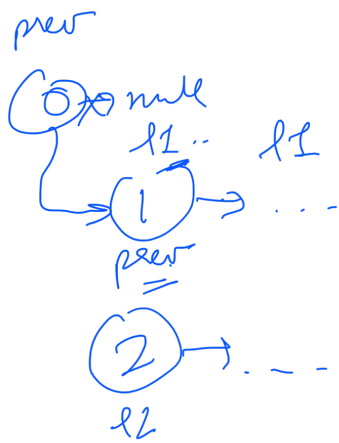


LN pHead = new LN(0);
 LN prev = pHead;

while (l1 != null &&
 l2 != null) {

class LN {
 int val;
 LN next;
 LN() {}

LN(val) {
 this.val = val;
 }
 LN(val, next) {}



```

if ( l1.val <=
      l2.val ) {

```

```

    prev.next = l1;

```

```

    l1 = l1.next;

```

```

} else {

```

```

    prev.next = l2;

```

```

    l2 = l2.next;

```

```

}

```

```

prev = prev.next;

```

```

}

```

```

if ( l1 == null ) {
    prev.next = l2;

```

```

} else {

```

```

    prev.next = l1;

```

```

}

```

```

return prev.next;

```

```

}

```

```

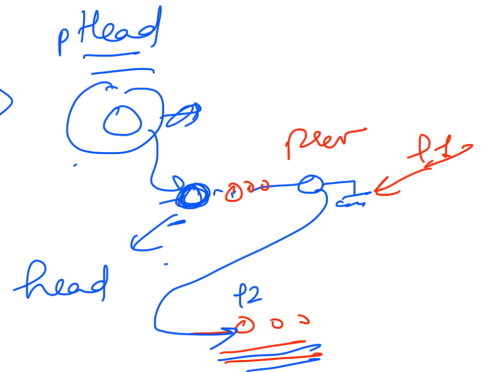
this.val = val;
this.next = next;

```

```

}

```



```

head = pHead.next

```