



# Two Characters

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Problem

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String  $t$  always consists of two distinct alternating characters. For example, if string  $t$ 's two distinct characters are  $x$  and  $y$ , then  $t$  could be  $xyxyx$  or  $yxyxy$  but *not*  $xyxy$  or  $xyyx$ .

You can convert some string  $s$  to string  $t$  by deleting characters from  $s$ . When you delete a character from  $s$ , you must delete *all* occurrences of it in  $s$ . For example, if  $s = \text{abaacdabd}$  and you delete the character  $a$ , then the string becomes  $bcdabd$ .

Given  $s$ , convert it to the longest possible string  $t$ . Then print the length of string  $t$  on a new line; if no string  $t$  can be formed from  $s$ , print  $0$  instead.

## Input Format

The first line contains a single integer denoting the length of  $s$ .

The second line contains string  $s$ .

## Constraints

- $1 \leq |s| \leq 1000$
- $s$  only contains lowercase English alphabetic letters (i.e.,  $a$  to  $z$ ).

## Output Format

Print a single integer denoting the maximum length of  $t$  for the given  $s$ ; if it is not possible to form string  $t$ , print  $0$  instead.

## Sample Input

```
10
beabeefeab
```

## Sample Output

```
5
```

## Explanation

The characters present in  $s$  are  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $e$ , and  $f$ . This means that  $t$  must consist of *two* of those characters.

If we delete  $e$  and  $f$ , the resulting string is  $babab$ . This is a valid  $t$  as there are only two distinct characters ( $a$  and  $b$ ), and they are alternating within the string.

If we delete  $a$  and  $f$ , the resulting string is  $bebeeeb$ . This is not a valid string  $t$  because there are *three* consecutive  $e$ 's present.

If we delete only  $e$ , the resulting string is  $babfab$ . This is not a valid string  $t$  because it contains *three* distinct characters.

Thus, we print the length of  $babab$ , which is **5**, as our answer.



Submissions: [18620](#)




Max Score: 20

Difficulty: Easy

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Current Buffer (saved locally, editable)  

Java 7   

```
1 import java.io.*;
2 import java.util.*;
3 import java.text.*;
4 import java.math.*;
5 import java.util.regex.*;
6
7 public class Solution {
8
9     public static void main(String[] args) {
10         Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
11         int len = in.nextInt();
12         String s = in.next();
13     }
14 }
15
```

Line: 1 Col: 1

 [Upload Code as File](#)☐ Test against custom input

Run Code

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