Data Structures

Tree Data Structure-

Tree data structure may be defined as-

Tree is a non-linear data structure which organizes data in a hierarchical structure and this is a recursive definition.

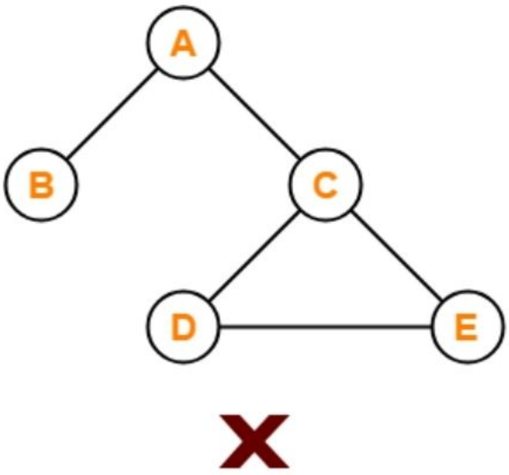
OR

A tree is a connected graph without any circuits.

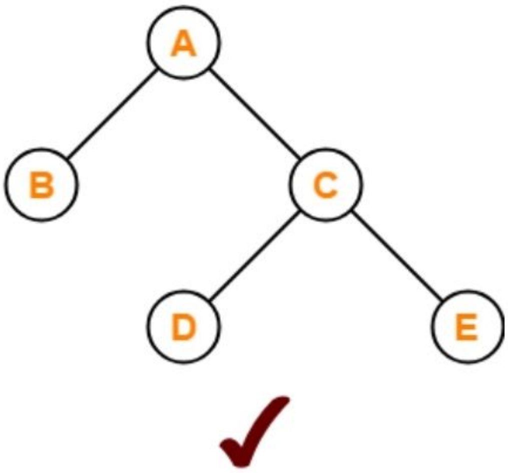
OR

If in a graph, there is one and only one path between every pair of vertices, then graph is called as a tree.

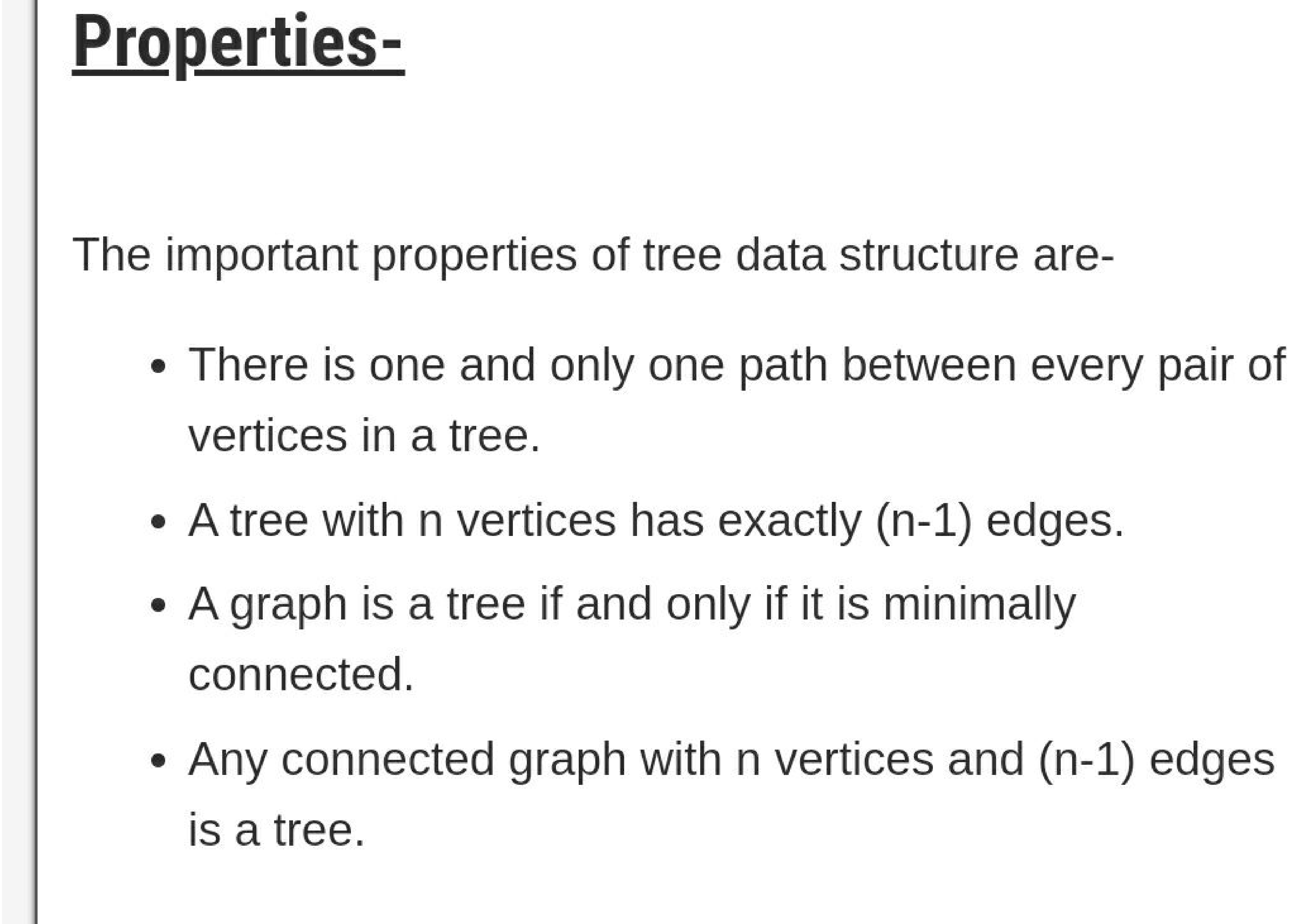
Example-



This graph is not a Tree



This graph is a Tree



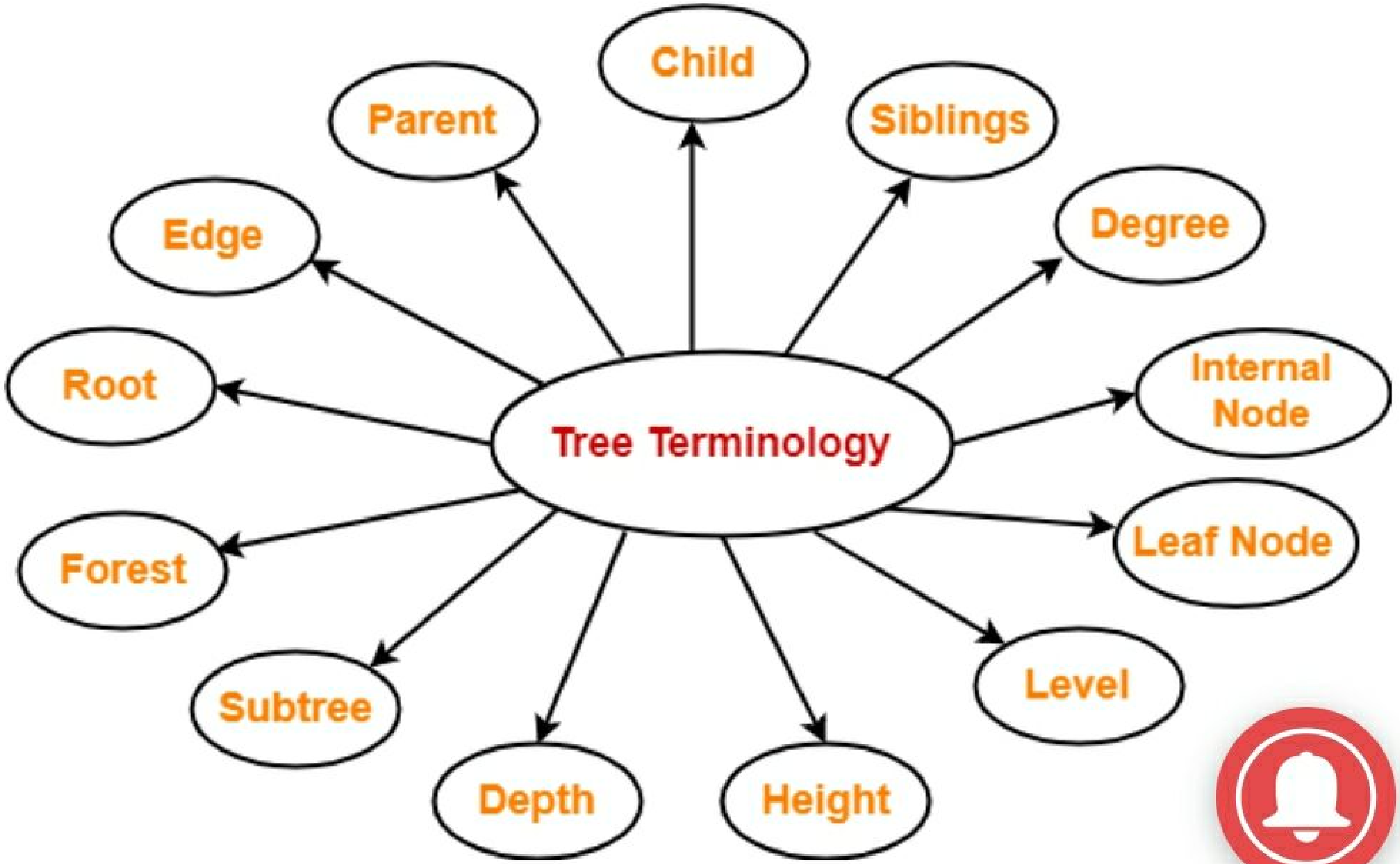
Properties-

The important properties of tree data structure are-

- There is one and only one path between every pair of vertices in a tree.
- A tree with n vertices has exactly (n-1) edges.
- A graph is a tree if and only if it is minimally connected.
- Any connected graph with n vertices and (n-1) edges is a tree.

Tree Terminology-

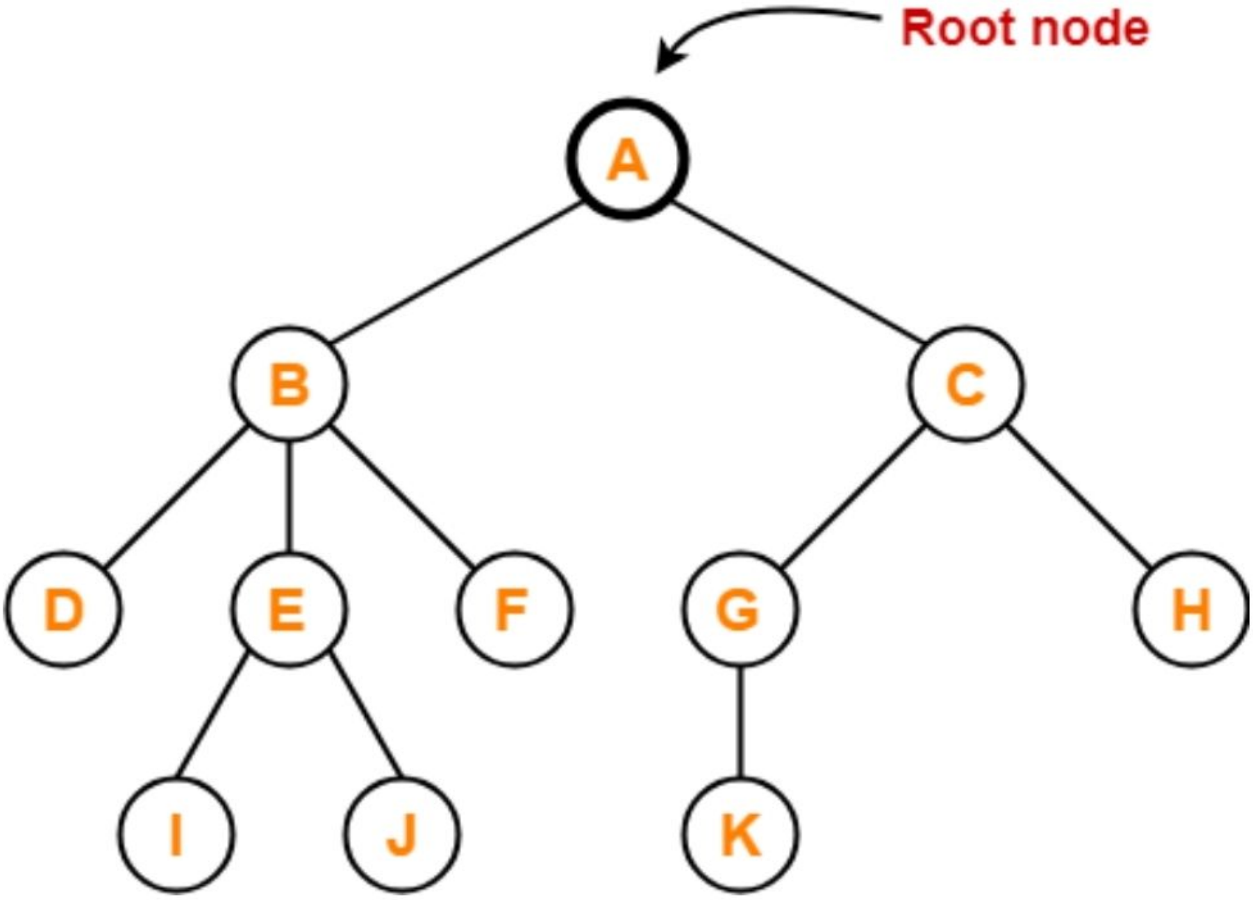
The important terms related to tree data structure are-



1. Root-

- The first node from where the tree originates is called as a **root node**.
- In any tree, there must be only one root node.
- We can never have multiple root nodes in a tree data structure.

Example-

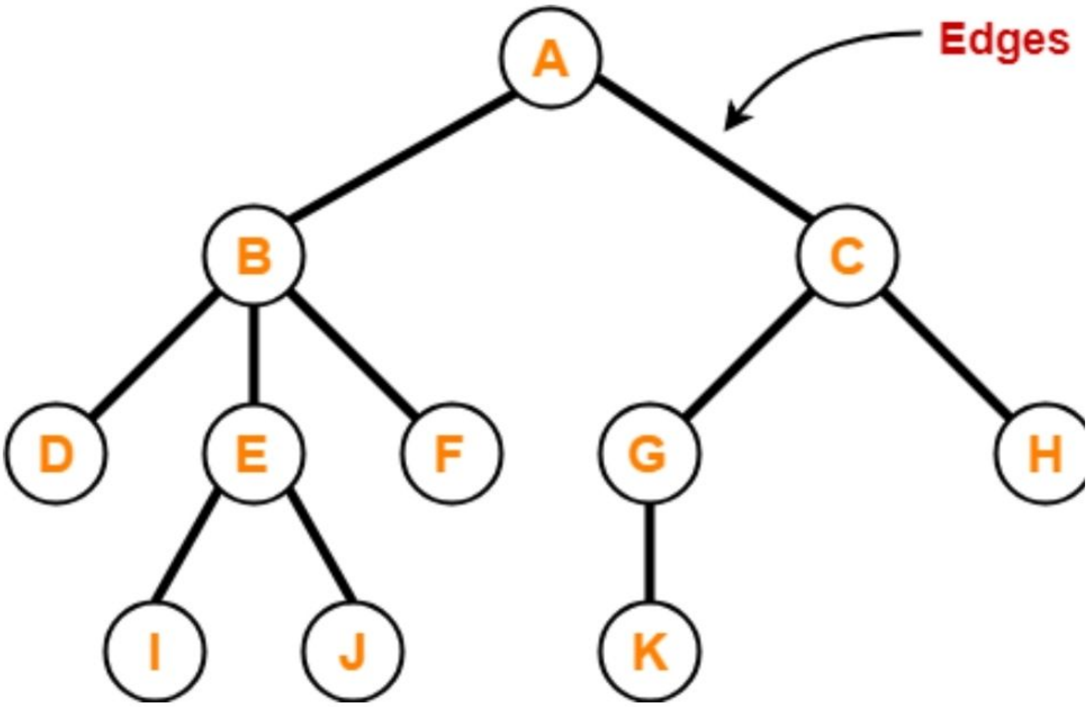


Here, node A is the only root node.

2. Edge-

- The connecting link between any two nodes is called as an **edge**.
- In a tree with n number of nodes, there are exactly (n-1) number of edges.

Example-



3. Parent-

- The node which has a branch from it to any other node is called as a **parent node**.
- In other words, the node which has one or more children is called as a parent node.
- In a tree, a parent node can have any number of child nodes.

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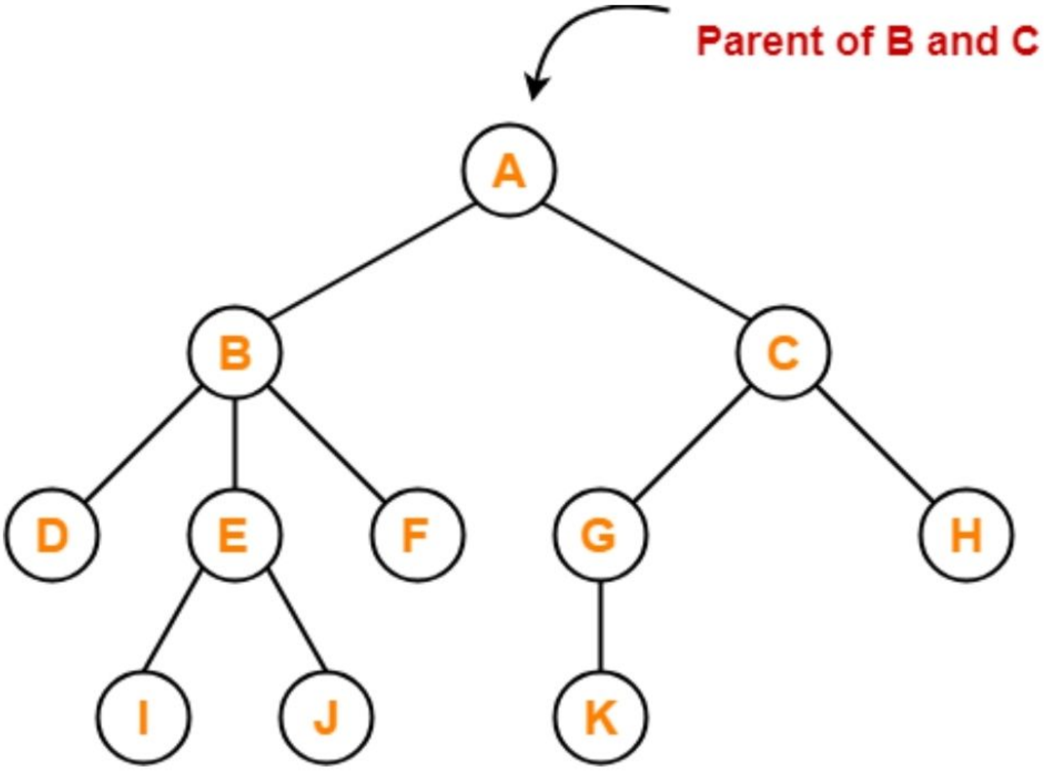


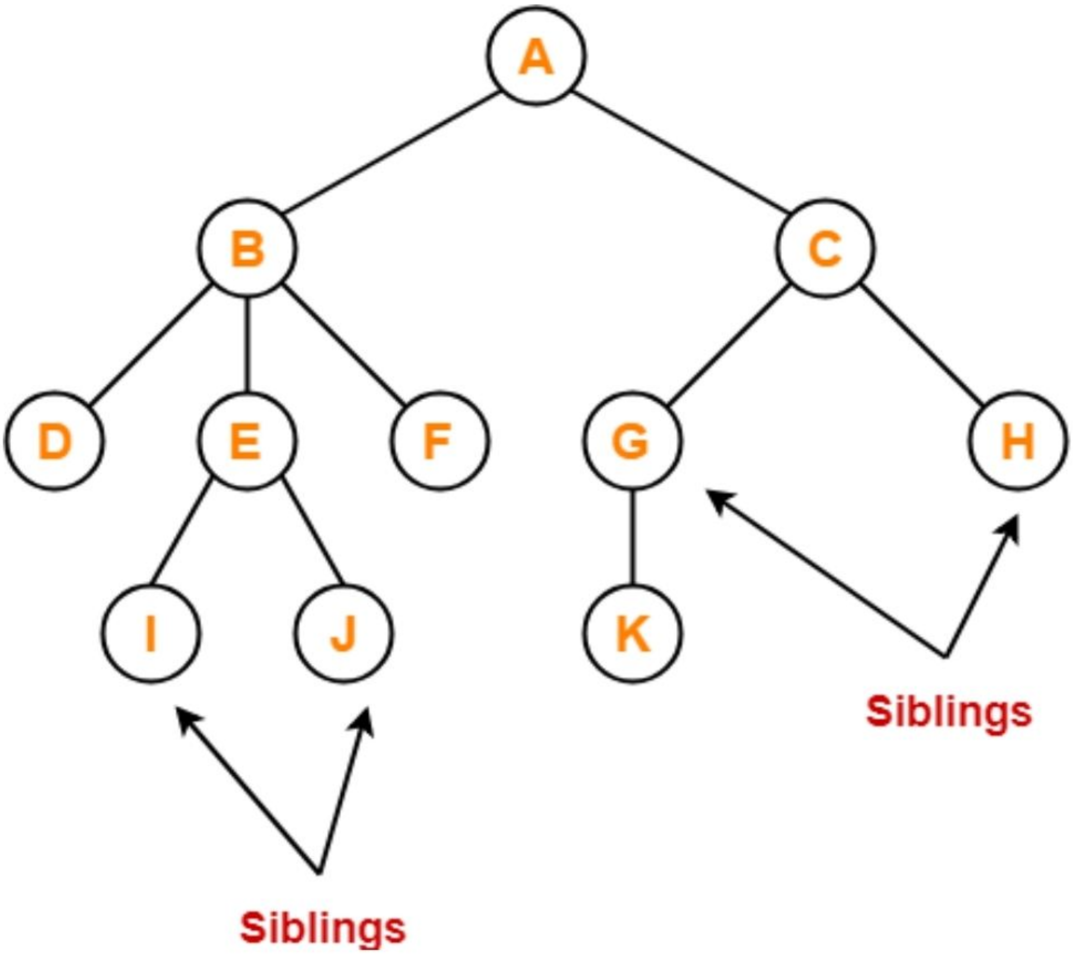
Here,

- Node A is the parent of nodes B and C
- Node B is the parent of nodes D, E and F
- Node C is the parent of nodes G and H
- Node E is the parent of nodes I and J
- Node G is the parent of node K

5. Siblings-

- Nodes which belong to the same parent are called as **siblings**.
- In other words, nodes with the same parent are sibling nodes.

Example-



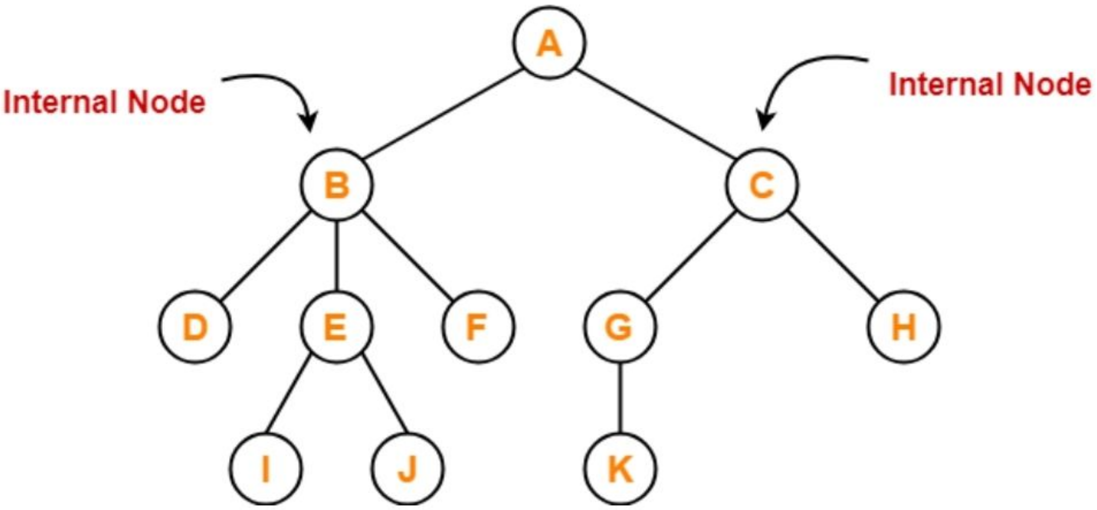
Here,

- Nodes B and C are siblings
- Nodes D, E and F are siblings
- Nodes G and H are siblings
- Nodes I and J are siblings

7. Internal Node-

- The node which has at least one child is called as an **internal node**.
- Internal nodes are also called as **non-terminal nodes**.
- Every non-leaf node is an internal node.

Example-



Here, nodes A, B, C, E and G are internal nodes.

8. Leaf Node-

- The node which does not have any child is called as a **leaf node**.
- Leaf nodes are also called as **external nodes** **terminal nodes**.

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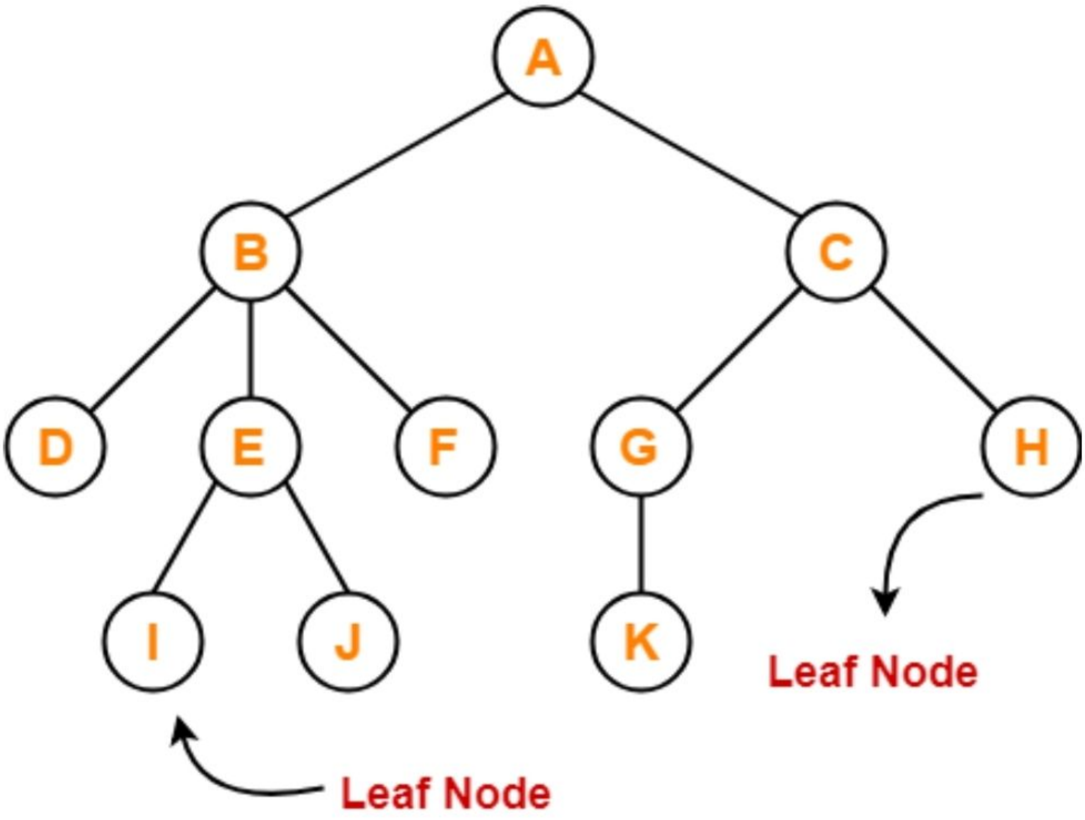

Here, nodes D, I, J, F, K and H are leaf nodes.

9. Level-

- In a tree, each step from top to bottom is called **level of a tree**.

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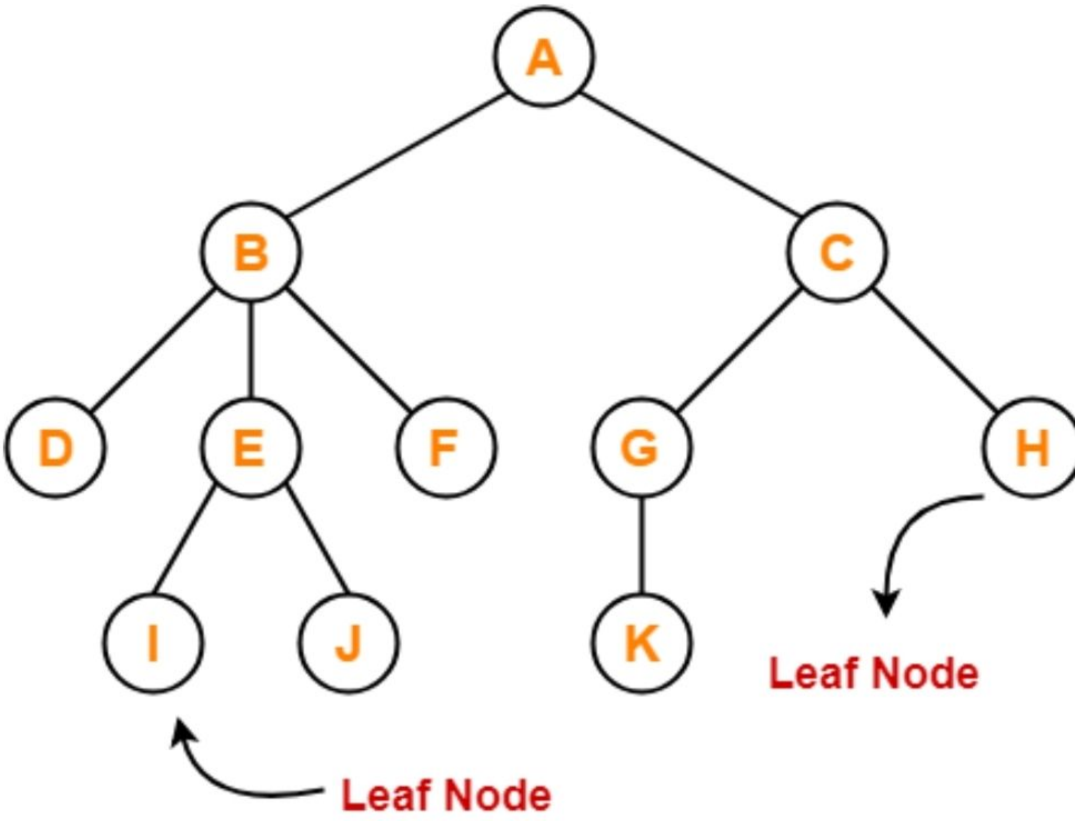

Here, nodes D, I, J, F, K and H are leaf nodes.

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- In a tree, each step from top to bottom is called **level of a tree**.

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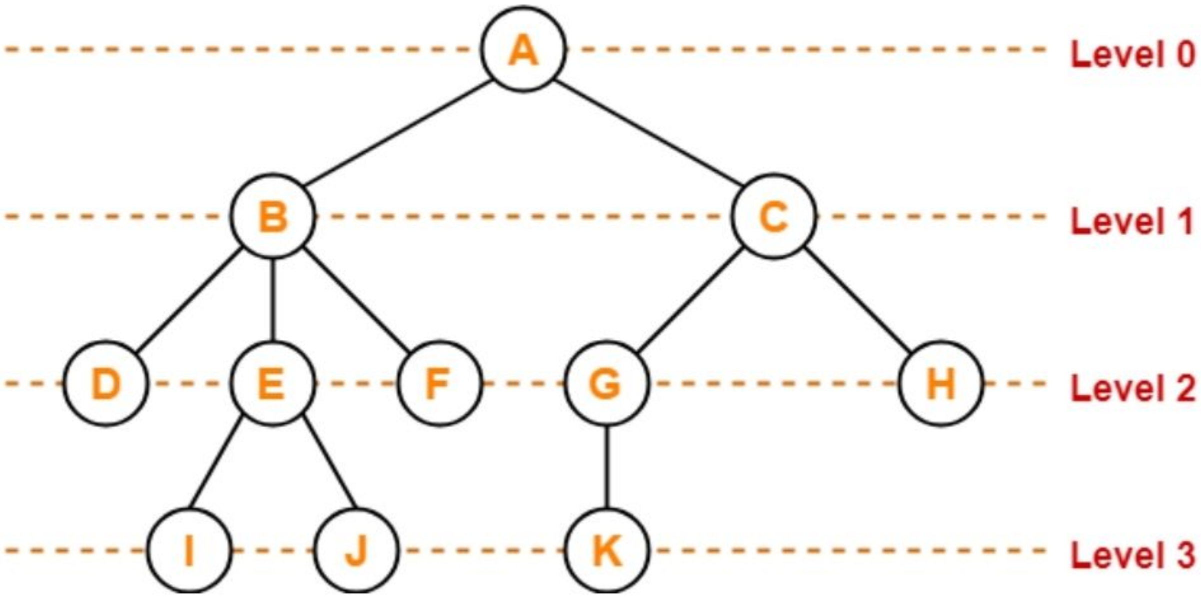
- In a tree, each step from top to bottom is called as **level of a tree**.
- The level count starts with 0 and increments by 1 at each level or step.

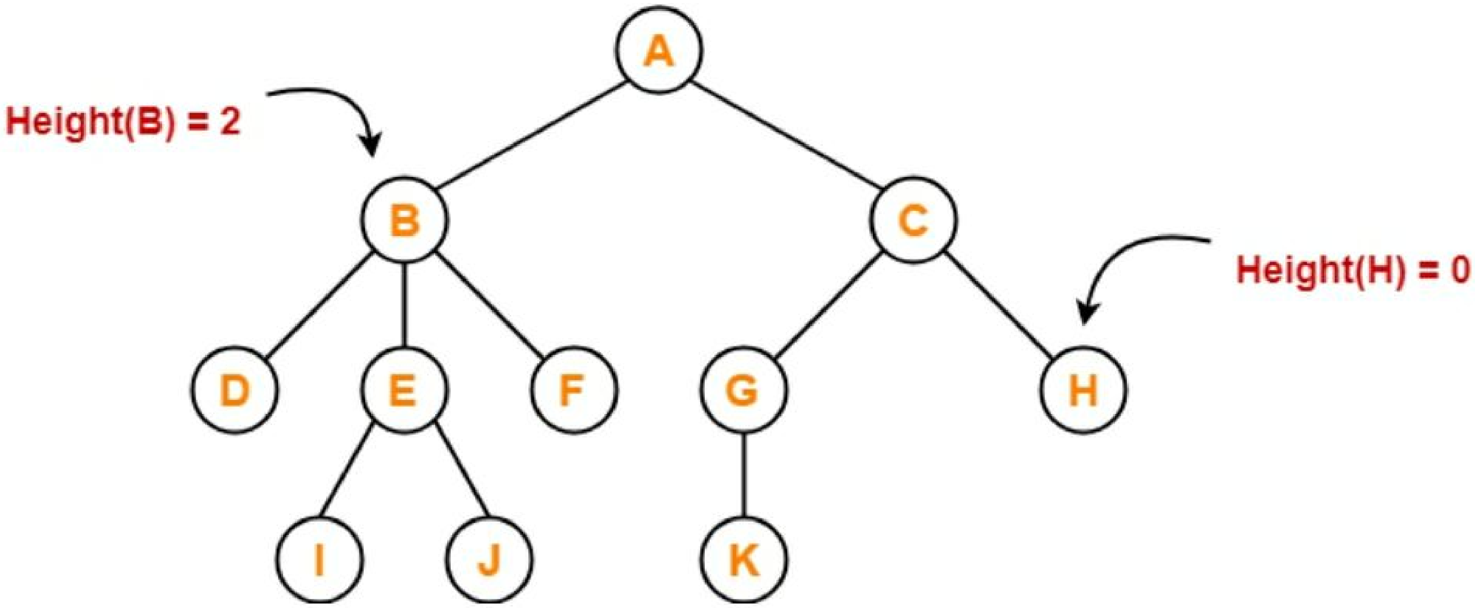
Example-



10. Height-

- Total number of edges that lies on the longest path from any leaf node to a particular node is called as **height of that node**.
- **Height of a tree** is the height of root node.
- Height of all leaf nodes = 0

Example-



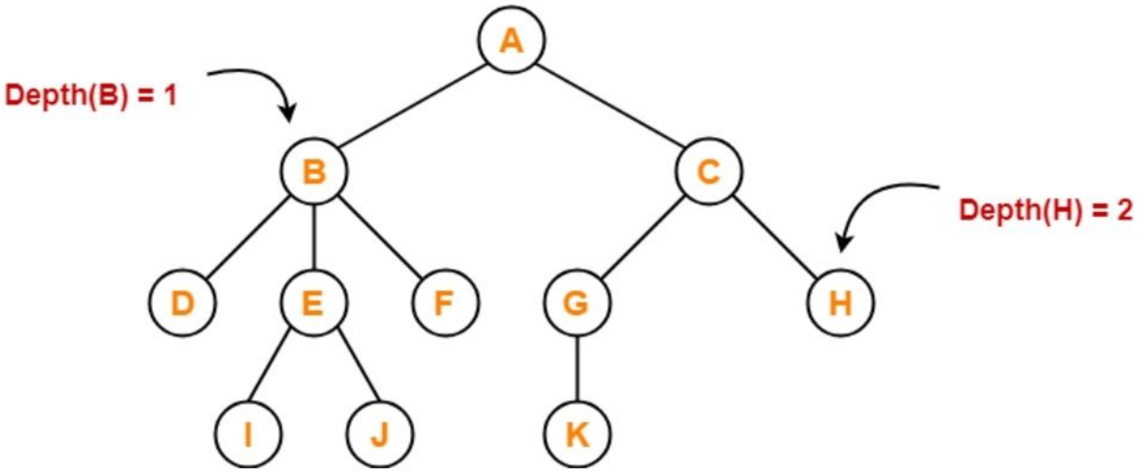
Here,

- Height of node A = 3
- Height of node B = 2
- Height of node C = 2
- Height of node D = 0
- Height of node E = 1
- Height of node F = 0
- Height of node G = 1
- Height of node H = 0

11. Depth-

- Total number of edges from root node to a particular node is called as **depth of that node**.
- **Depth of a tree** is the total number of edges from roc node to a leaf node in the longest path.
- Depth of the root node = 0
- The terms “level” and “depth” are used interchangeably.

Example-



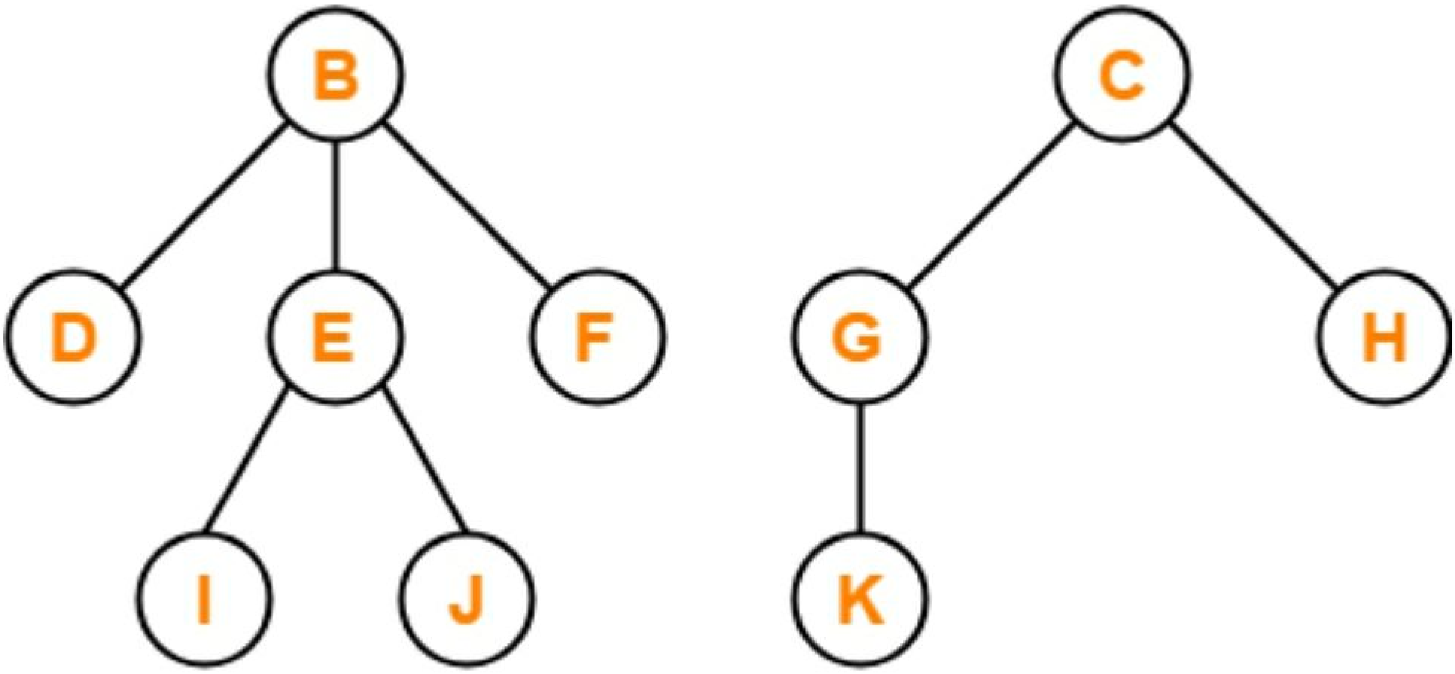
Here,

- Depth of node A = 0
- Depth of node B = 1
- Depth of node C = 1
- Depth of node D = 2
- Depth of node E = 2
- Depth of node F = 2

13. Forest-

A forest is a set of disjoint trees.

Example-



Forest