📝 Git Exercise: Retrieve & Analyze Big Data with Git History

🔧 Scenario

Welcome to your new job! You've inherited a messy repository from a team that didn't believe in consistency. Your boss gave you a massive data file (`Lorem ipsum.txt`) that was added and then mysteriously deleted. Meanwhile, your colleague created a great analysis script in another branch — but never merged it.

Now it's your mission to:

1. Retrieve the missing data file from Git history.
2. Recover the analysis script from a different branch.
3. Make it all work together in `main.py`.
4. Add the large file to `.gitignore` so it doesn't clutter the repo again.
5. Commit and push the changes.

🚀 Your Mission

1. Create the repository from the script

```
chmod +x E4_repository.sh
./E4_repository.sh
```

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2. Investigate the Git History

View the commit history to find where the boss's file was added:

```
git log
```

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3. Recover the Big File

Find the commit where `Lorem ipsum.txt` was added. Use that commit hash to restore it:

```
Use the chat
```

Confirm the file is back:

```
ls
```

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4. Retrieve the Analysis Script from a Branch

Switch to the branch containing the analysis tool:

```
git checkout READ_LOREM_IPSUM
```

Copy the file into the current `main` branch:

```
You got it on your own
```

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5. Create `main.py` to Run the Analysis

Now run the read lorem python file

```
python3 read_lorem.py
```

Confirm the files works as expected.

Save the file and stage the changes:

```
git add .
git commit -m "Add main.py to run lorem analysis"
```

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6. Add the Large File to `.gitignore`

To avoid committing the big file again, add it to `.gitignore`:

```
echo "Lorem ipsum.txt" >> .gitignore
git add .gitignore
git commit -m "Ignore big data file from future commits"
```

✅ What You'll Learn

- 🔍 Navigating Git history and branches

- ♻️ Recovering deleted files from the past
- 🛠️ Merging useful work from isolated branches
- 🚫 Preventing large files from bloating the repo
- 🧠 Real-world Git workflows for data analysis

🎯 Bonus Challenge

Can you automate part of this recovery process with a shell or Python script?

You're now ready to handle messy repositories like a Git pro. Good luck! 🚀