

```

int partition(int [ ] array, int size, int pivot){
    int down=0, up=size-1;
    while(down<up){
        // finds the first, from left, element that is greater than pivot
        while(down<=up && array [down]<=pivot){
            down++;
        }

        // finds the first, from right, element that is less than or equal to pivot
        while(up>=down && array [up]>pivot){
            up--;
        }

        if(down<up){
            // exchange array[down] and array[up]
            int temp= array [down];
            array [down]= array [up];
            array [up]=temp;
        }
    }
    return up;
}

```

### Example 1

Given a pivot **30** and an array as follows:

Array elements	51	3	34	6	5	1	31	19	72	48
Index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

See how **down**, **up**, and **array** are changing during the execution:

At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> iteration of the outer while loop:

down	up	array[down]	array[up]
0	7	51 (>pivot)	19 (<=pivot)

19 ↔ 51

Array elements	<b>19</b>	3	34	6	5	1	31	<b>51</b>	72	48
Index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

At the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration of the outer while loop:

down	up	array[down]	array[up]
2	5	34 (>pivot)	1 (<=pivot)

1 ↔ 34

Array elements	19	3	<b>1</b>	6	5	<b>34</b>	31	51	72	48
Index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> iteration of the outer while loop:

down	up	array[down]	array[up]
5	4	34 (>pivot)	5 (<=pivot)

No exchange because  $\text{down} \geq \text{up}$ . The outer while loop ends and **4** is returned.

Array elements at 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4 are now all less than or equal to the pivot **30**. Array elements at 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 are all greater than the pivot **30**.