

## 2017 AP<sup>®</sup> COMPUTER SCIENCE A FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

3. This question involves analyzing and modifying a string. The following `Phrase` class maintains a phrase in an instance variable and has methods that access and make changes to the phrase. You will write two methods of the `Phrase` class.

```
public class Phrase
{
    private String currentPhrase;

    /** Constructs a new Phrase object. */
    public Phrase(String p)
    {   currentPhrase = p;   }

    /** Returns the index of the nth occurrence of str in the current phrase;
     *   returns -1 if the nth occurrence does not exist.
     *   Precondition: str.length() > 0 and n > 0
     *   Postcondition: the current phrase is not modified.
     */
    public int findNthOccurrence(String str, int n)
    {   /* implementation not shown */   }

    /** Modifies the current phrase by replacing the nth occurrence of str with repl.
     *   If the nth occurrence does not exist, the current phrase is unchanged.
     *   Precondition: str.length() > 0 and n > 0
     */
    public void replaceNthOccurrence(String str, int n, String repl)
    {   /* to be implemented in part (a) */   }

    /** Returns the index of the last occurrence of str in the current phrase;
     *   returns -1 if str is not found.
     *   Precondition: str.length() > 0
     *   Postcondition: the current phrase is not modified.
     */
    public int findLastOccurrence(String str)
    {   /* to be implemented in part (b) */   }

    /** Returns a string containing the current phrase. */
    public String toString()
    {   return currentPhrase;   }
}
```

Part (a) begins on page 12.

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- (a) Write the `Phrase` method `replaceNthOccurrence`, which will replace the `nth` occurrence of the string `str` with the string `repl`. If the `nth` occurrence does not exist, `currentPhrase` remains unchanged.

Several examples of the behavior of the method `replaceNthOccurrence` are shown below.

| Code segments                                                                                                                          | Output produced   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <pre>Phrase phrase1 = new Phrase("A cat ate late."); phrase1.replaceNthOccurrence("at", 1, "rane"); System.out.println(phrase1);</pre> | A crane ate late. |
| <pre>Phrase phrase2 = new Phrase("A cat ate late."); phrase2.replaceNthOccurrence("at", 6, "xx"); System.out.println(phrase2);</pre>   | A cat ate late.   |
| <pre>Phrase phrase3 = new Phrase("A cat ate late."); phrase3.replaceNthOccurrence("bat", 2, "xx"); System.out.println(phrase3);</pre>  | A cat ate late.   |
| <pre>Phrase phrase4 = new Phrase("aaaa"); phrase4.replaceNthOccurrence("aa", 1, "xx"); System.out.println(phrase4);</pre>              | xxaa              |
| <pre>Phrase phrase5 = new Phrase("aaaa"); phrase5.replaceNthOccurrence("aa", 2, "bbb"); System.out.println(phrase5);</pre>             | abbba             |

Class information for this question

```
public class Phrase
```

```
private String currentPhrase
```

```
public Phrase(String p)
```

```
public int findNthOccurrence(String str, int n)
```

```
public void replaceNthOccurrence(String str, int n, String repl)
```

```
public int findLastOccurrence(String str)
```

```
public String toString()
```

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The `Phrase` class includes the method `findNthOccurrence`, which returns the `nth` occurrence of a given string. You must use `findNthOccurrence` appropriately to receive full credit.

Complete method `replaceNthOccurrence` below.

```
/** Modifies the current phrase by replacing the nth occurrence of str with repl.
 * If the nth occurrence does not exist, the current phrase is unchanged.
 * Precondition: str.length() > 0 and n > 0
 */
public void replaceNthOccurrence(String str, int n, String repl)
```

Part (b) begins on page 14.

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### Question 3: PhraseEditor

|                 |                                   |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Part (a)</b> | <code>replaceNthOccurrence</code> | <b>5 points</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|

**Intent:** *Replace the  $n$ th occurrence of a given string with a given replacement*

- +1 Calls `findNthOccurrence` to find the index of the  $n$ th occurrence
- +1 Preserves `currentPhrase` only if  $n$ th occurrence does not exist
- +1 Identifies components of `currentPhrase` to retain (uses `substring` to extract before/after)
- +1 Creates replacement string using identified components and `repl`
- +1 Assigns replacement string to instance variable (`currentPhrase`)

|                 |                                 |                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Part (b)</b> | <code>findLastOccurrence</code> | <b>4 points</b> |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|

**Intent:** *Return the index of the last occurrence of a given string*

- +1 Calls `findNthOccurrence` to find the index of the  $n$ th occurrence
- +1 Increments (or decrements) the value used as  $n$  when finding  $n$ th occurrence
- +1 Returns the index of the last occurrence, if it exists
- +1 Returns -1 only when no occurrences exist

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| <b>Question-Specific Penalties</b> |
|------------------------------------|

- 1 (q) Uses `currentPhrase.findNthOccurrence`
- 2 (r) Confused identifier instead of `currentPhrase`

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### Question 3: Scoring Notes

| Part (a) <code>replaceNthOccurrence</code> |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 5 points                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Points                                     | Rubric Criteria                                                                                                     | Responses earn the point if they ...                                                                                                                                                                                    | Responses will not earn the point if they ...                                                                                                                                                              |
| +1                                         | Calls <code>findNthOccurrence</code> to find the index of the <code>nth</code> occurrence                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>do not use the result of calling <code>findNthOccurrence</code></li> </ul>                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| +1                                         | Preserves <code>currentPhrase</code> only if <code>nth</code> occurrence does not exist                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fail to use a conditional</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                |
| +1                                         | Identifies components of <code>currentPhrase</code> to retain (uses <code>substring</code> to extract before/after) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify start and end of substring to be replaced</li> </ul>                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| +1                                         | Creates replacement string using identified components and <code>repl</code>                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>create a replacement string that is out of order</li> </ul>                                                                                                         |
| +1                                         | Assigns replacement string to instance variable ( <code>currentPhrase</code> )                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Part (b) <code>findLastOccurrence</code>   |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 4 points                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Points                                     | Rubric Criteria                                                                                                     | Responses earn the point if they ...                                                                                                                                                                                    | Responses will not earn the point if they ...                                                                                                                                                              |
| +1                                         | Calls <code>findNthOccurrence</code> to find the index of the <code>nth</code> occurrence                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>do not use the result of calling <code>findNthOccurrence</code></li> </ul>                                                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><code>return currentPhrase.lastIndexOf(str);</code></li> <li>call <code>findNthOccurrence</code> with an integer parameter of 0</li> </ul>                          |
| +1                                         | Increments (or decrements) the value used as <code>n</code> when finding <code>nth</code> occurrence                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><code>return currentPhrase.lastIndexOf(str);</code></li> <li>advance through <code>currentPhrase</code> searching for <code>nth</code> occurrence of <code>str</code></li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| +1                                         | Returns the index of the last occurrence, if it exists                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><code>return currentPhrase.lastIndexOf(str);</code></li> <li>compute the correct value to be returned in all cases, but no return statement exists for any case</li> </ul>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shorten string being searched</li> <li>always return in first iteration of the loop</li> </ul>                                                                      |
| +1                                         | Returns -1 only when no occurrences exist                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><code>return currentPhrase.lastIndexOf(str);</code></li> </ul>                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>compute the correct value to be returned in all cases, but no return statement exists for any case</li> <li>always return in first iteration of the loop</li> </ul> |