

2008 AP[®] COMPUTER SCIENCE A FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

2. Consider a method of encoding and decoding words that is based on a *master string*. This master string will contain all the letters of the alphabet, some possibly more than once. An example of a master string is "sixtyzipperwerequicklypickedfromthewovenjutebag". This string and its indexes are shown below.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
s	i	x	t	y	z	i	p	p	e	r	s	w	e	r	e	q	u	i	c	k	l	y	p

24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
i	c	k	e	d	f	r	o	m	t	h	e	w	o	v	e	n	j	u	t	e	b	a	g

An encoded string is defined by a list of *string parts*. A string part is defined by its starting index in the master string and its length. For example, the string "overeager" is encoded as the list of string parts [(37, 3), (14, 2), (46, 2), (9, 2)] denoting the substrings "ove", "re", "ag", and "er".

String parts will be represented by the `StringPart` class shown below.

```
public class StringPart
{
    /** @param start the starting position of the substring in a master string
     *  @param length the length of the substring in a master string
     */
    public StringPart(int start, int length)
    { /* implementation not shown */ }

    /** @return the starting position of the substring in a master string
     */
    public int getStart()
    { /* implementation not shown */ }

    /** @return the length of the substring in a master string
     */
    public int getLength()
    { /* implementation not shown */ }

    // There may be instance variables, constructors, and methods that are not shown.
}
```

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The class `StringCoder` provides methods to encode and decode words using a given master string. When encoding, there may be multiple matching string parts of the master string. The helper method `findPart` is provided to choose a string part within the master string that matches the beginning of a given string.

```
public class StringCoder
{
    private String masterString;

    /** @param master the master string for the StringCoder
     *      Precondition: the master string contains all the letters of the alphabet
     */
    public StringCoder(String master)
    { masterString = master; }

    /** @param parts an ArrayList of string parts that are valid in the master string
     *      Precondition: parts.size() > 0
     *      @return the string obtained by concatenating the parts of the master string
     */
    public String decodeString(ArrayList<StringPart> parts)
    { /* to be implemented in part (a) */ }

    /** @param str the string to encode using the master string
     *      Precondition: all of the characters in str appear in the master string;
     *                          str.length() > 0
     *      @return a string part in the master string that matches the beginning of str.
     *              The returned string part has length at least 1.
     */
    private StringPart findPart(String str)
    { /* implementation not shown */ }

    /** @param word the string to be encoded
     *      Precondition: all of the characters in word appear in the master string;
     *                          word.length() > 0
     *      @return an ArrayList of string parts of the master string that can be combined
     *              to create word
     */
    public ArrayList<StringPart> encodeString(String word)
    { /* to be implemented in part (b) */ }

    // There may be instance variables, constructors, and methods that are not shown.
}
```

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Question 2: String Coder

Part A:	<code>decodeString</code>	4 1/2 points
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- +1 `traverse parts`
 - +1/2 correctly access an element of `parts` (in context of loop)
 - +1/2 access all elements of `parts` (lose this if index out-of-bounds)

- +2 `retrieve substrings from masterString`
 - +1/2 correctly call `getStart()` and `getLength()` on accessed part
 - +1 1/2 extract a substring from `masterString`
 - +1/2 `masterString.substring(X,Y)`
 - +1 extract correct substring

- +1 1/2 `build and return decoded string`
 - +1 correctly build string from substrings of `masterString`
 - +1/2 return built string

Part B:	<code>encodeString</code>	4 1/2 points
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- +1/2 `construct an ArrayList<StringPart>` (must assign to a variable, generic okay)

- +3 1/2 `find, collect string parts, and build list` (in context of loop)
 - +1 `findPart(X)`, where `X` is word or a substring of word
 - +1 calls to `findPart` involve progressively smaller suffixes of word
 - +1/2 add found string part to `ArrayList` of string parts
 - +1 build correct list of string parts (must have used `findPart`)

- +1/2 `return ArrayList` of string parts