

Benjamin Tate
10/22/17
CS 362 -- Section 400
Random Testing Quiz

The goal of this random tester was to implement two functions, `inputChar()` and `inputString()`, which would together eventually break the `testme()` function by leading it through its path to the error message. For this to happen, the char returned by `inputChar()` needed to follow a specific sequence of letters and symbols through each iteration of the while loop, in order to reach state 9. Once the state was 9, `inputString()` needed to return the string "reset\0" to produce the error.

First off, I made `inputChar` simply return a random alphanumeric character or symbol, by choosing from 32-126 on the ASCII table, which corresponds to ' ' through '~' characters. Through repeated iterations of the while loop, this will always eventually get the state from 0 to 9.

Next was to make a random string that could possibly be "reset". It would have been possible to achieve this by just building the string character by character in the same manner as I selected the character for `inputChar()`, but to make it take less iterations, I used another random number generator from 0-4 to make it so that $\frac{1}{4}$ of the time, the string would be made of totally random characters, while $\frac{3}{4}$ of the time, it would be composed randomly of the characters 'r', 'e', 's', and 't'. This greatly increases the chances of a random string being "reset", and thereby decreases the number of iterations needed to reach the error message.