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15-110 Section A
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Design:

Reasoning:

The idea of this term project was to build a Top Friends Listing desktop application for Facebook. Prior to Facebook, I used to be a MySpace user and so have other current Facebook users. I enjoy Facebook a lot as a product, however, it does lack one component - a top friends feature. There are plugins and outside developer solutions for them on facebook, but there don't offer much functionality and are overshadowed by their little interaction with the actual facebook environment or any environment that would display them. Another issue with top friends lists is that some friends feel uncomfortable being ranked or assumed that the rankings are based on personal preference. To address both issues, I decided to make the ranking of the list factored by a universal component of facebook, the individual's unique user IDs, and allow for the storage of the list on a medium that could easily be shared, a text file.

Implementation:

To implement all of this features, I'm using the Facebook Graph API, which is a library with functions for sorting and handling facebook information unique to each user and public information on facebook.

For my graphical user interface, I'm emplying tkMessageBox, tkSimpleDialog, and the Tkinter modules for elements such as dialogs, textboxes, buttons, images, and graphics.

For the exporting feature, I am using File IO with my own created exportTopFriendsList() function.

For web features, I am using the webbrowser module.

Computation:

Since every user on facebook is stored as a dictionary with multiple values, I sort through using a series of helper functions that extract from the dictionary and buildings lists, then sorts those lists.

Other complexities were many in building the GUI. For thorough understanding of the computation, please refer to the comments within the code.