

Solution 1

```
1 // Copyright © 2020 AlgoExpert, LLC. All rights reserved.
2
3 #include <vector>
4 using namespace std;
5
6 int quickselectHelper(vector<int> array, int startIdx, int endIdx,
7                       int position);
8
9 // Best: O(n) time | O(1) space
10 // Average: O(n) time | O(1) space
11 // Worst: O(n^2) time | O(1) space
12 int quickselect(vector<int> array, int k) {
13     int position = k - 1;
14     return quickselectHelper(array, 0, array.size() - 1, position);
15 }
16
17 int quickselectHelper(vector<int> array, int startIdx, int endIdx,
18                       int position) {
19     while (true) {
20         if (startIdx > endIdx) {
21             perror("Your Algorithm should never arrive here!");
22             exit(1);
23         }
24         int pivotIdx = startIdx;
25         int leftIdx = startIdx + 1;
26         int rightIdx = endIdx;
27         while (leftIdx <= rightIdx) {
28             if (array[leftIdx] > array[pivotIdx] &&
29                 array[rightIdx] < array[pivotIdx]) {
30                 swap(array[leftIdx], array[rightIdx]);
31             }
32             if (array[leftIdx] <= array[pivotIdx]) {
33                 leftIdx++;
34             }
35             if (array[rightIdx] >= array[pivotIdx]) {
36                 rightIdx--;
37             }
38         }
39         swap(array[pivotIdx], array[rightIdx]);
40         if (rightIdx == position) {
41             return array[rightIdx];
42         } else if (rightIdx < position) {
43             startIdx = rightIdx + 1;
44         } else {
45             endIdx = rightIdx - 1;
46         }
47     }
48 }
49
```