

Solution 1

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1 # Copyright © 2020 AlgoExpert, LLC. All rights reserved.
2
3 # Best: O(n) time | O(1) space
4 # Average: O(n) time | O(1) space
5 # Worst: O(n^2) time | O(1) space
6 def quickselect(array, k):
7     position = k - 1
8     return quickselectHelper(array, 0, len(array) - 1, position)
9
10
11 def quickselectHelper(array, startIdx, endIdx, position):
12     while True:
13         if startIdx > endIdx:
14             raise Exception("Your algorithm should never arrive here!")
15         pivotIdx = startIdx
16         leftIdx = startIdx + 1
17         rightIdx = endIdx
18         while leftIdx <= rightIdx:
19             if array[leftIdx] > array[pivotIdx] and array[rightIdx] < array[pivotIdx]:
20                 swap(leftIdx, rightIdx, array)
21             if array[leftIdx] <= array[pivotIdx]:
22                 leftIdx += 1
23             if array[rightIdx] >= array[pivotIdx]:
24                 rightIdx -= 1
25         swap(pivotIdx, rightIdx, array)
26         if rightIdx == position:
27             return array[rightIdx]
28         elif rightIdx < position:
29             startIdx = rightIdx + 1
30         else:
31             endIdx = rightIdx - 1
32
33
34 def swap(one, two, array):
35     array[one], array[two] = array[two], array[one]
36
```