

# 158. Read N Characters Given read4 II - Call Multiple Times

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Given a `file` and assume that you can only read the file using a given method `read4`, implement a method `read` to read `n` characters. Your method `read` may be **called multiple times**.

## Method read4:

The API `read4` reads **four consecutive characters** from `file`, then writes those characters into the buffer array `buf4`.

The return value is the number of actual characters read.

Note that `read4()` has its own file pointer, much like `FILE *fp` in C.

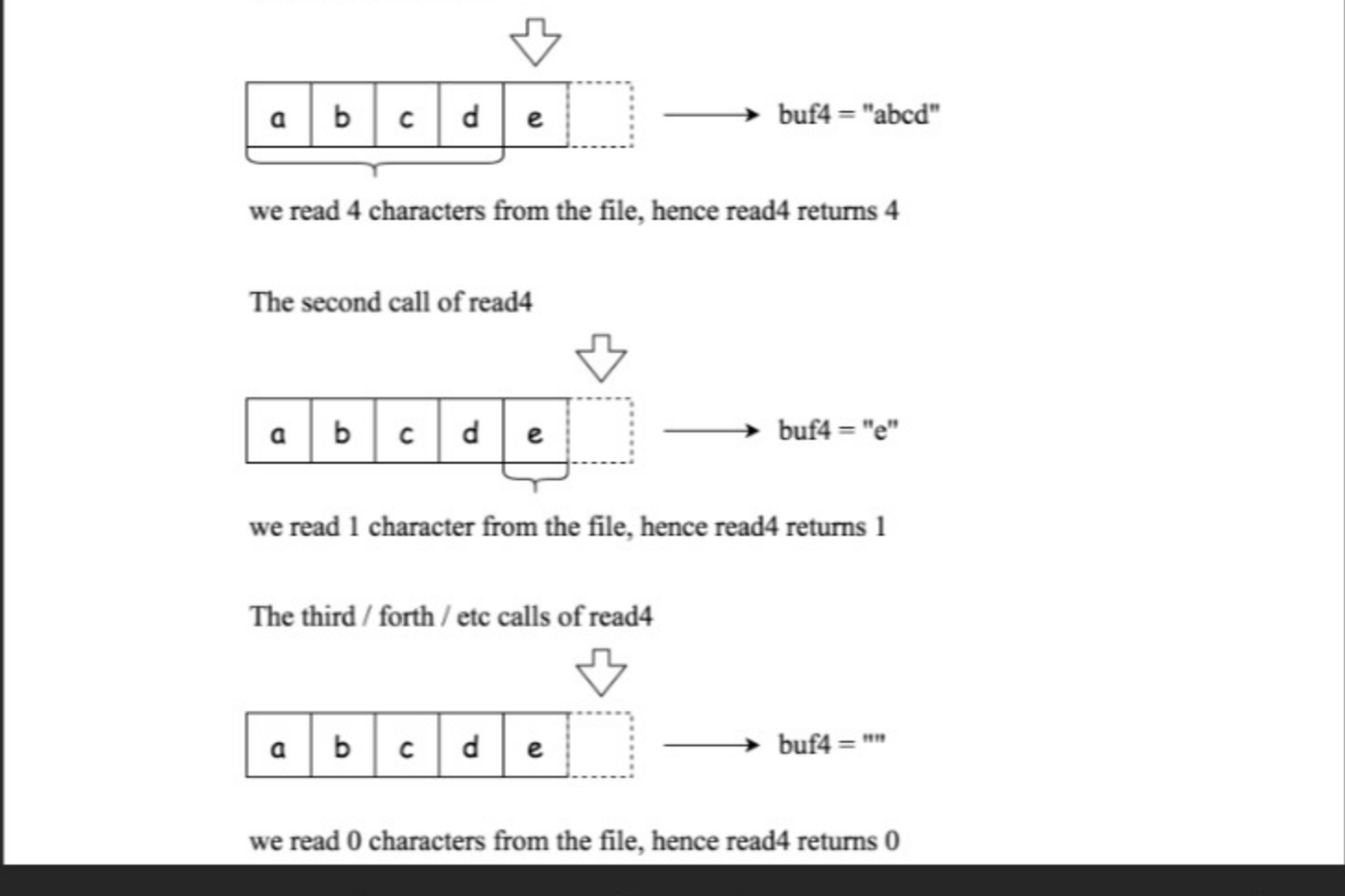
## Definition of read4:

Parameter: `char[] buf4`

Returns: `int`

`buf4[]` is a destination, not a source. The results from `read4` will be copied to `buf4[]`.

Below is a high-level example of how `read4` works:



```
File file("abcde"); // File is "abcde", initially file pointer (fp)
points to 'a'
char[] buf4 = new char[4]; // Create buffer with enough space to store
characters
read4(buf4); // read4 returns 4. Now buf4 = "abcd", fp points to 'e'
read4(buf4); // read4 returns 1. Now buf4 = "e", fp points to end of file
read4(buf4); // read4 returns 0. Now buf4 = "", fp points to end of file
```

## Method read:

By using the `read4` method, implement the method `read` that reads `n` characters from `file` and store it in the buffer array `buf`. Consider that you cannot manipulate `file` directly.

The return value is the number of actual characters read.

## Definition of read:

Parameters: `char[] buf, int n`

Returns: `int`

`buf[]` is a destination, not a source. You will need to write the results to `buf[]`.

## Note:

- Consider that you cannot manipulate the file directly. The file is only accessible for `read4` but not for `read`.
- The `read` function may be **called multiple times**.
- Please remember to **RESET** your class variables declared in Solution, as static/class variables are persisted across multiple test cases. Please see [here](#) for more details.
- You may assume the destination buffer array, `buf`, is guaranteed to have enough space for storing `n` characters.
- It is guaranteed that in a given test case the same buffer `buf` is called by `read`.

## Example 1:

**Input:** `file = "abc", queries = [1,2,1]`  
**Output:** `[1,2,0]`  
**Explanation:** The test case represents the following scenario:  
`File file("abc");`  
`Solution sol;`  
`sol.read(buf, 1);` // After calling your `read` method, `buf` should contain "a". We read a total of 1 character from the file, so return 1.  
`sol.read(buf, 2);` // Now `buf` should contain "bc". We read a total of 2 characters from the file, so return 2.  
`sol.read(buf, 1);` // We have reached the end of file, no more characters can be read. So return 0.  
Assume `buf` is allocated and guaranteed to have enough space for storing all characters from the file.

## Example 2:

**Input:** `file = "abc", queries = [4,1]`  
**Output:** `[3,0]`  
**Explanation:** The test case represents the following scenario:  
`File file("abc");`  
`Solution sol;`  
`sol.read(buf, 4);` // After calling your `read` method, `buf` should contain "abc". We read a total of 3 characters from the file, so return 3.  
`sol.read(buf, 1);` // We have reached the end of file, no more characters can be read. So return 0.

## Constraints:

- `1 <= file.length <= 500`
- `file` consist of English letters and digits.
- `1 <= queries.length <= 10`
- `1 <= queries[i] <= 500`

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/5

Yes

No

Accepted 187.4K | Submissions 440K | Acceptance Rate 42.6%

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