

# 1181. Before and After Puzzle Premium

Medium Topics Companies Hint

Given a list of `phrases`, generate a list of Before and After puzzles.

A *phrase* is a string that consists of lowercase English letters and spaces only. No space appears in the start or the end of a phrase. There are no consecutive spaces in a phrase.

*Before and After puzzles* are phrases that are formed by merging two phrases where the **last word of the first phrase** is the same as the **first word of the second phrase**.

Return the Before and After puzzles that can be formed by every two phrases `phrases[i]` and `phrases[j]` where `i != j`. Note that the order of matching two phrases matters, we want to consider both orders.

You should return a list of **distinct** strings **sorted lexicographically**.

### Example 1:

**Input:** `phrases = ["writing code","code rocks"]`  
**Output:** `["writing code rocks"]`

### Example 2:

**Input:** `phrases = ["mission statement",  
"a quick bite to eat",  
"a chip off the old block",  
"chocolate bar",  
"mission impossible",  
"a man on a mission",  
"block party",  
"eat my words",  
"bar of soap"]`  
**Output:** `["a chip off the old block party",  
"a man on a mission impossible",  
"a man on a mission statement",  
"a quick bite to eat my words",  
"chocolate bar of soap"]`

### Example 3:

**Input:** `phrases = ["a","b","a"]`  
**Output:** `["a"]`

### Constraints:

- `1 <= phrases.length <= 100`
- `1 <= phrases[i].length <= 100`

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

Yes No

Accepted 9.8K | Submissions 21.2K | Acceptance Rate 46.1%

Topics^

ArrayHash TableStringSorting

Companies^

0 - 6 months

Clutter2

Hint 1^

What if you check every pair of strings (bruteforce)?

Hint 2^

For every two strings, check if they can form a puzzle by comparing their last and first words.

Discussion (1)^