

2107. Number of Unique Flavors After Sharing K Candies Premium

Medium Topics Companies Hint

You are given a **0-indexed** integer array `candies`, where `candies[i]` represents the flavor of the i^{th} candy. Your mom wants you to share these candies with your little sister by giving her k **consecutive** candies, but you want to keep as many flavors of candies as possible.

Return *the **maximum** number of **unique** flavors of candy you can keep after sharing with your sister.*

Example 1:

Input: `candies = [1,2,2,3,4,3]`, `k = 3`
Output: `3`
Explanation:
Give the candies in the range `[1, 3]` (inclusive) with flavors `[2,2,3]`.
You can eat candies with flavors `[1,4,3]`.
There are 3 unique flavors, so return 3.

Example 2:

Input: `candies = [2,2,2,2,3,3]`, `k = 2`
Output: `2`
Explanation:
Give the candies in the range `[3, 4]` (inclusive) with flavors `[2,3]`.
You can eat candies with flavors `[2,2,2,3]`.
There are 2 unique flavors, so return 2.
Note that you can also share the candies with flavors `[2,2]` and eat the candies with flavors `[2,2,3,3]`.

Example 3:

Input: `candies = [2,4,5]`, `k = 0`
Output: `3`
Explanation:
You do not have to give any candies.
You can eat the candies with flavors `[2,4,5]`.
There are 3 unique flavors, so return 3.

Constraints:

- `1 <= candies.length <= 105`
- `1 <= candies[i] <= 105`
- `0 <= k <= candies.length`

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

Yes No

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Hint 1

For every group of k consecutive candies, count the number of unique flavors not inside that group. Return the largest number of unique flavors.

Hint 2

When calculating an adjacent group of k consecutive candies, can you use some of your previous calculations?

Hint 3

Use a sliding window where the window is the group of k consecutive candies you are sharing. Use a hash map to store the number of candies of each type you can keep.

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