



6269. Shortest Distance to Target String in a Circular Array

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You are given a **0-indexed circular** string array `words` and a string `target`. A **circular array** means that the array's end connects to the array's beginning.

- Formally, the next element of `words[i]` is `words[(i + 1) % n]` and the previous element of `words[i]` is `words[(i - 1 + n) % n]`, where `n` is the length of `words`.

Starting from `startIndex`, you can move to either the next word or the previous word with 1 step at a time.

Return the **shortest** distance needed to reach the string `target`. If the string `target` does not exist in `words`, return `-1`.

User Accepted:	0
User Tried:	0
Total Accepted:	0
Total Submissions:	0
Difficulty:	Easy

Example 1:

Input: `words = ["hello","i","am","leetcode","hello"], target = "hello", startIndex = 1`

Output: 1

Explanation: We start from index 1 and can reach "hello" by

- moving 3 units to the right to reach index 4.
- moving 2 units to the left to reach index 4.
- moving 4 units to the right to reach index 0.
- moving 1 unit to the left to reach index 0.

The shortest distance to reach "hello" is 1.

Example 2:

Input: `words = ["a","b","leetcode"], target = "leetcode", startIndex = 0`

Output: 1

Explanation: We start from index 0 and can reach "leetcode" by

- moving 2 units to the right to reach index 3.
- moving 1 unit to the left to reach index 3.

The shortest distance to reach "leetcode" is 1.

Example 3:

Input: `words = ["i","eat","leetcode"], target = "ate", startIndex = 0`

Output: -1

Explanation: Since "ate" does not exist in `words`, we return -1.

Constraints:

- `1 <= words.length <= 100`
- `1 <= words[i].length <= 100`
- `words[i]` and `target` consist of only lowercase English letters.
- `0 <= startIndex < words.length`

JavaScript




```

1  const counter_value_in_indexA_in = (a_or_s) => { let m = new Map(); let n = a_or_s.length; for (let i = 0; i < n; i++) {
2    if (!m.has(a_or_s[i])) m.set(a_or_s[i], []); m.get(a_or_s[i]).push(i); } return m; };
3  const closetTarget = (words, target, startIndex) => {
4    let m = counter_value_in_indexA_in(words), res = Number.MAX_SAFE_INTEGER;
5    if (!m.has(target)) return -1;
6    let a = m.get(target);
7    for (const idx of a) {
8      let small = Math.min(idx, startIndex), large = Math.max(idx, startIndex);
9      let dis = indexMove(words.length, small, large);
10     res = Math.min(res, dis);
11   }
12   return res;
13 };
14

```

```
15 ▾ const indexMove = (n, small, large) => {  
16     let moveRight = large - small, moveLeft = small + n - large;  
17     return Math.min(moveLeft, moveRight);  
18 };
```

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