5746. Minimum Distance to the Target Element

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Given an integer array `nums` **(0-indexed)** and two integers `target` and `start`, find an index `i` such that `nums[i] == target` and `abs(i - start)` is **minimized**. Note that `abs(x)` is the absolute value of `x`.

Return `abs(i - start)`.

It is **guaranteed** that `target` exists in `nums`.

User Accepted:	77
User Tried:	87
Total Accepted:	77
Total Submissions:	87
Difficulty:	Easy

Example 1:

```
Input: nums = [1,2,3,4,5], target = 5, start = 3
Output: 1
Explanation: nums[4] = 5 is the only value equal to target, so the answer is abs(4 - 3) = 1.
```

Example 2:

```
Input: nums = [1], target = 1, start = 0
Output: 0
Explanation: nums[0] = 1 is the only value equal to target, so the answer is abs(0 - 0) = 1.
```

Example 3:

```
Input: nums = [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1], target = 1, start = 0
Output: 0
Explanation: Every value of nums is 1, but nums[0] minimizes abs(i - start), which is abs(0 - 0) = 0.
```

Constraints:

- `1 <= nums.length <= 1000`
- `1 <= nums[i] <= 10^4`
- `0 <= start < nums.length`
- `target` is in `nums`.

JavaScript

```
const abs = Math.abs;

const getMinDistance = (a, target, start) => {
    let n = a.length;
    let li, ri;
    for (let i = start; i < n; i++) {
        if (a[i] == target) {
            ri = i;
            break;
        }
    }
    for (let i = start; ~i; i--) {
        if (a[i] == target) {
            li = i;
            break;
        }
    }
    // pr(ri, li);
    if (ri != undefined) {
        if (li != undefined) {
            let ldiff = abs(li - start);
            let rdiff = abs(ri - start);
            // pr(ldiff, rdiff);
            return ldiff <= rdiff ? ldiff : rdiff;
        } else {
            return abs(ri - start);
```

```
        }
    } else {
        return abs(li - start);;
    }
};
```

Custom Testcase | Use Example Testcases

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