

CSE 340 Spring 2018  
Homework 4  
Solution

## II Pointer semantics.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
struct T {
    int a;
    int *b;
    struct T *next;
} ;
```

```
struct T p0;
struct T *p1;
struct T **p2;
```

```
int *p;
int *q;
```

... continued on next page ...

# II Pointer semantics.

```
int main()
{
    int i;
    struct T* cursor;

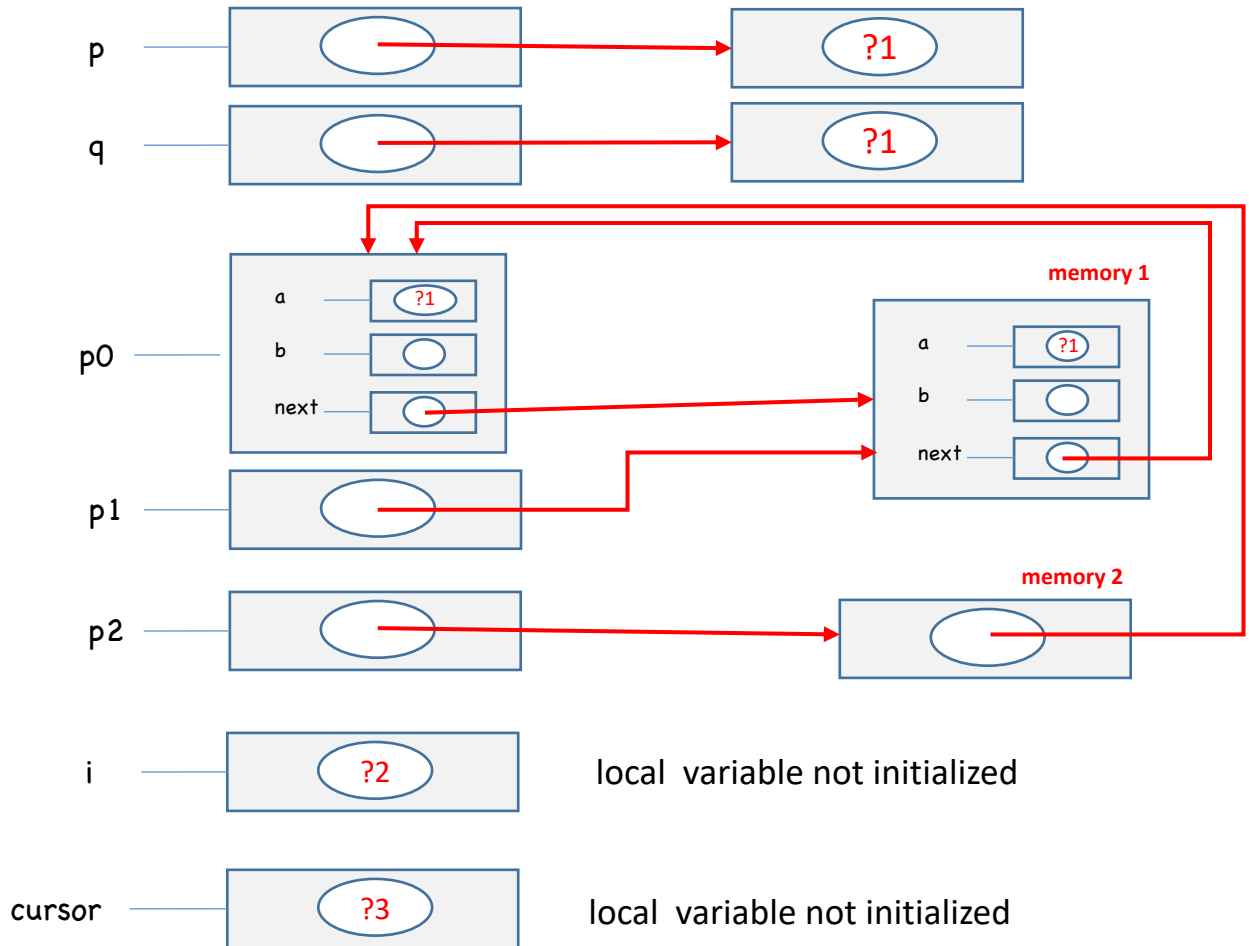
    p1 = (struct T *) malloc(sizeof(struct T));
    p2 = (struct T **) malloc(sizeof(struct T *));

    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    q = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));

    *p = *q;

    p0.next = p1;
    (*p1).a = *p;
    (*p1).next = &p0;
    *p2 = (*p1).next;
```

//-----  
// Question1. Draw a box-circle diagram for p,q, p0, p1, p2 and the  
// memory allocated above at this point  
//-----

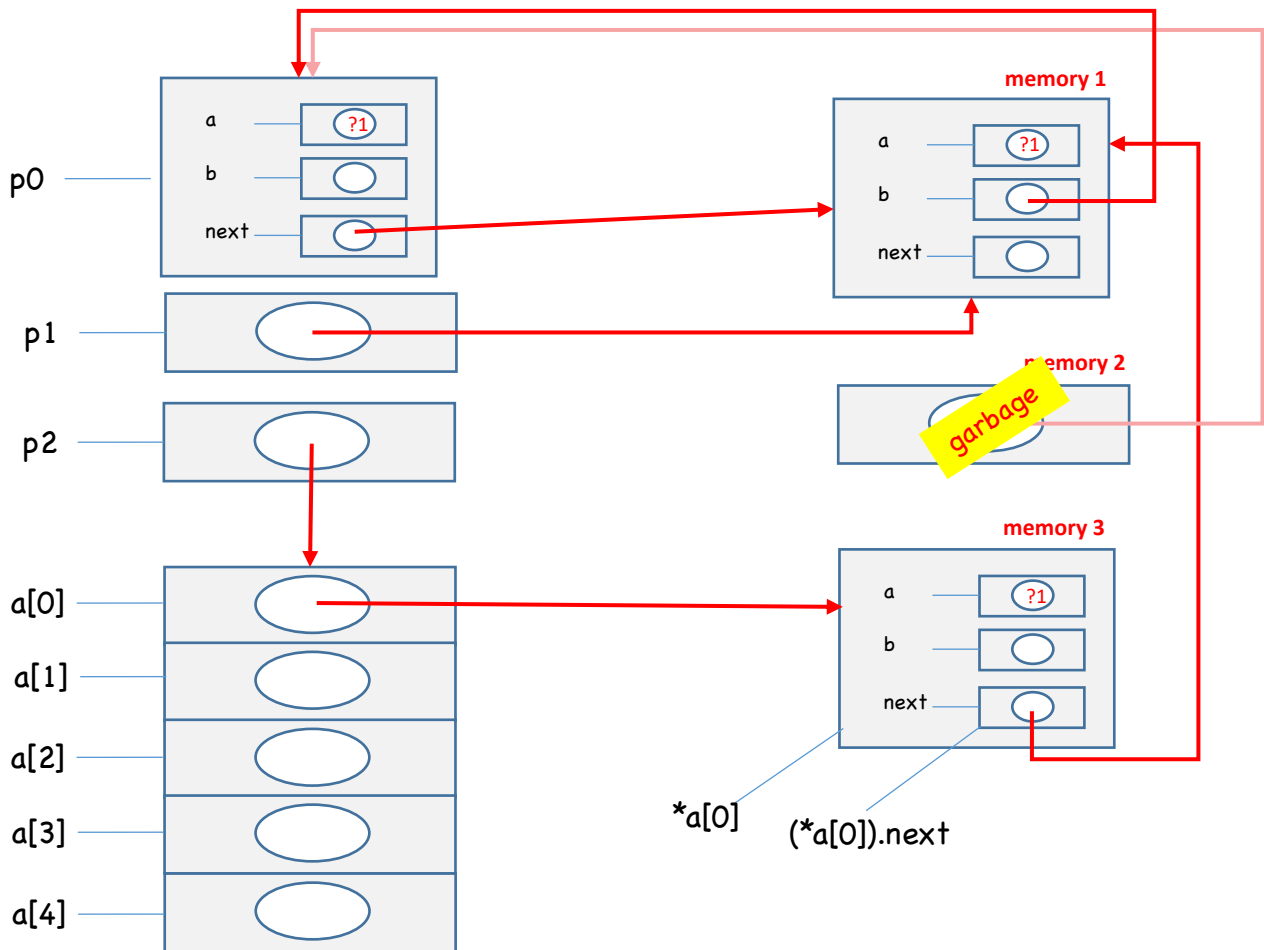


**Note:** I use ?x to indicate unknown values. ?1 and ?2 can be different or the same, but all ?1 are the same.

**Note:** You do not need to show all variables in your solution. Only the memory allocated with `malloc()` and the specified variables

# II Pointer semantics.

```
{  
    struct T *a[5];  
    struct T **b[5];  
    int i,j;  
  
    a[0] = (struct T*) malloc(sizeof(struct T));  
    p2 = &a[0];  
    (*a[0]).next = p1;  
  
    //-----  
    // Question 2. Draw a box-circle diagram for p1, p2, a[]  
    //               and the memory allocated above at this point  
    //-----
```



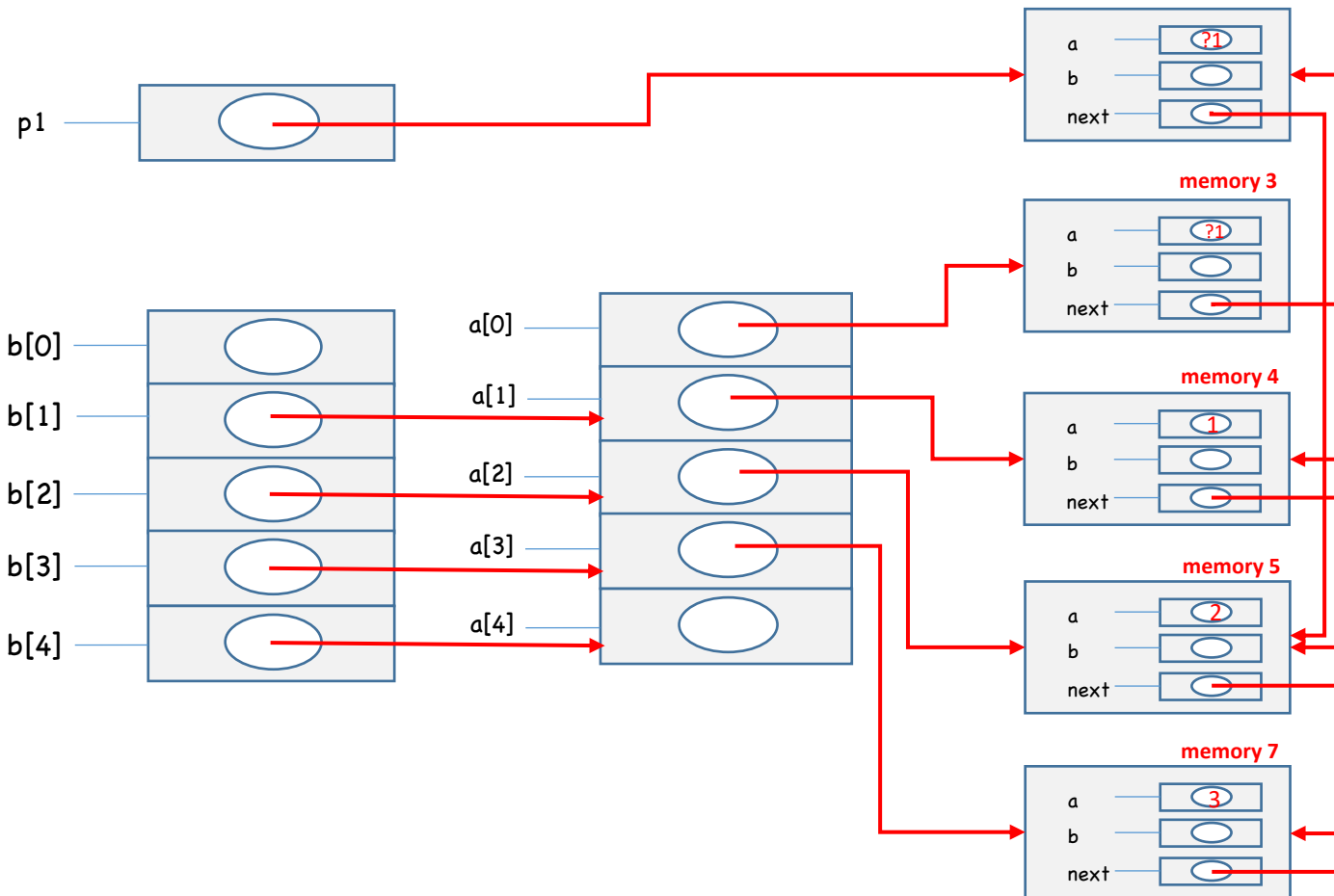
**Note** a has no location associated with it. We cannot say a = ... but in C the expressions &a is the same as &a[0] and \*a the same as a[0]

```

for (i = 1; i < 4; i++)
{
    a[i] = (struct T*) malloc(sizeof(struct T));
    (*a[i]).next = a[i-1];
    (*a[i]).a = i;
    b[i] = &a[i];
    (**b[i]).next = *b[i];    // b[i] to point to a[i]
                             // *b[i] is an alias of a[i];
                             // (**b[i]).next = a[i] which points to the
                             // node containing (**b[i]).next ;
}
(*p1).next = a[2]; // (*p1).next will have the address of memory 5

```

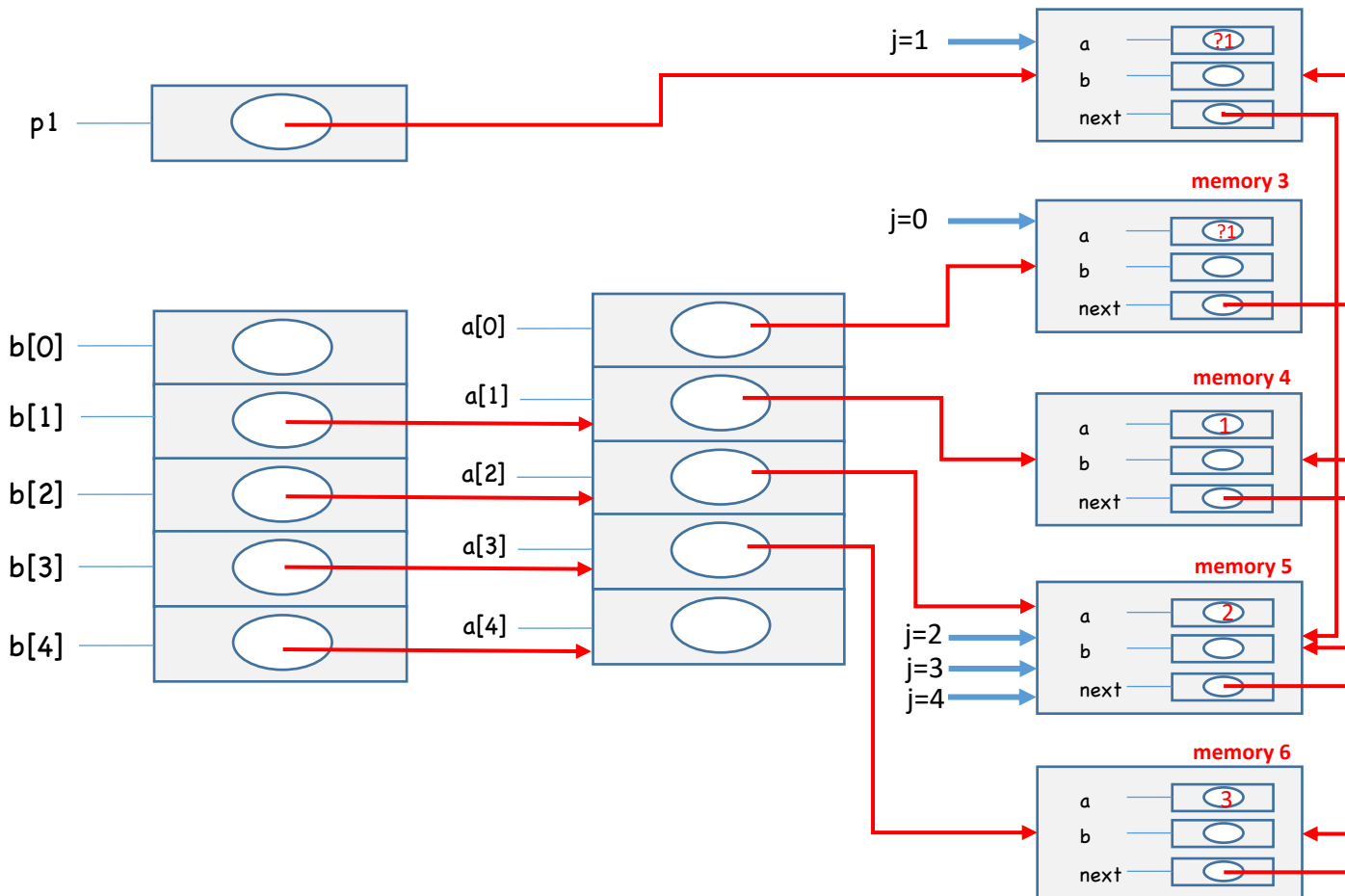
After executing the code above, we get the following



## II Pointer semantics.

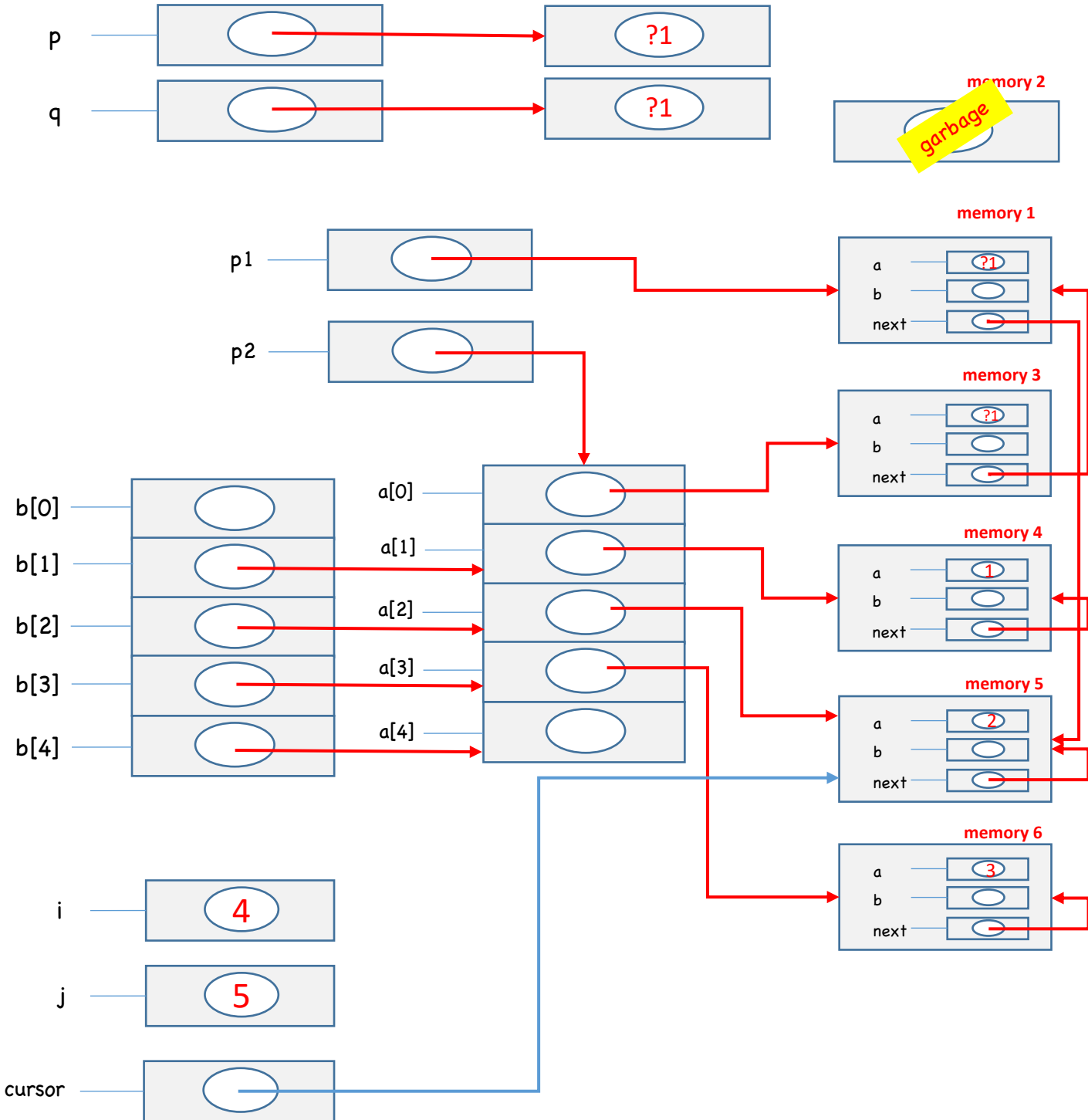
```
//-----  
// Question 3. Explain the output produced by the  
//           following loop  
//-----  
cursor = a[0];  
for (j = 0; j < 5; j++)  
{  
    printf("%d ", (*cursor).a);  
    cursor = (*cursor).next;  
}  
printf("\n");
```

The following illustrate the value of cursor (blue arrow) for the successive values of j. It also explains the values being printed which are ?1 ?1 2 2 2  
In a particular execution ?1 might be 0, but in general it need not be 0



# II Pointer semantics.

```
//-----  
// Question 4. Draw a box-circle diagram of ALL the variables  
//               and the memory allocated up to this point?  
//               what locations are garbage at this point?  
//-----
```



## II Pointer semantics.

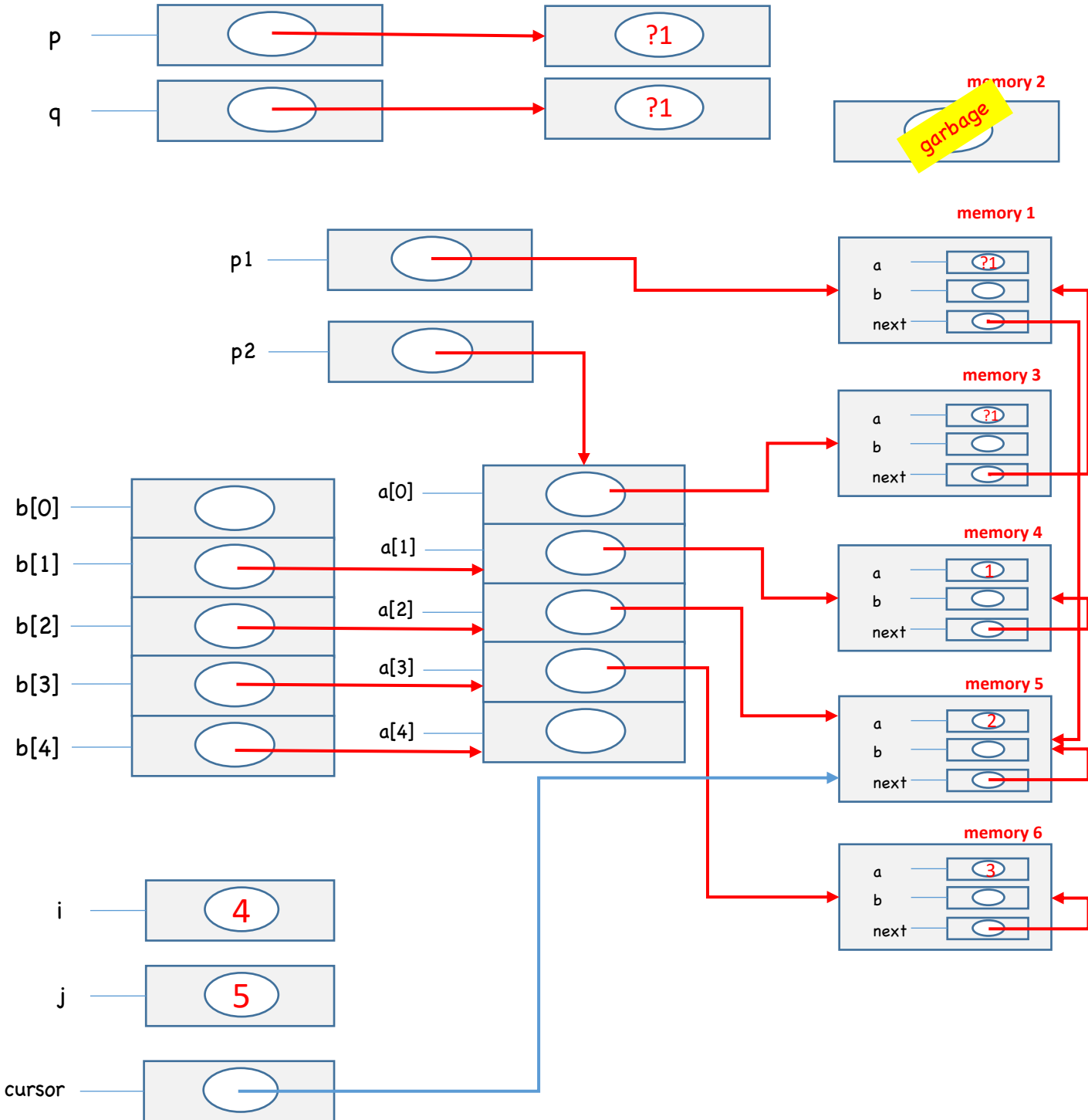
```
//-----  
// Question 5. Give an alias for a[2] at this point.  
//           This alias should not include the names "a" !!  
//           This might be tricky and you might want to skip  
//           it and do other parts first.  
//-----
```

**Answer:**     `*(p2+2)` or `p2[2]`



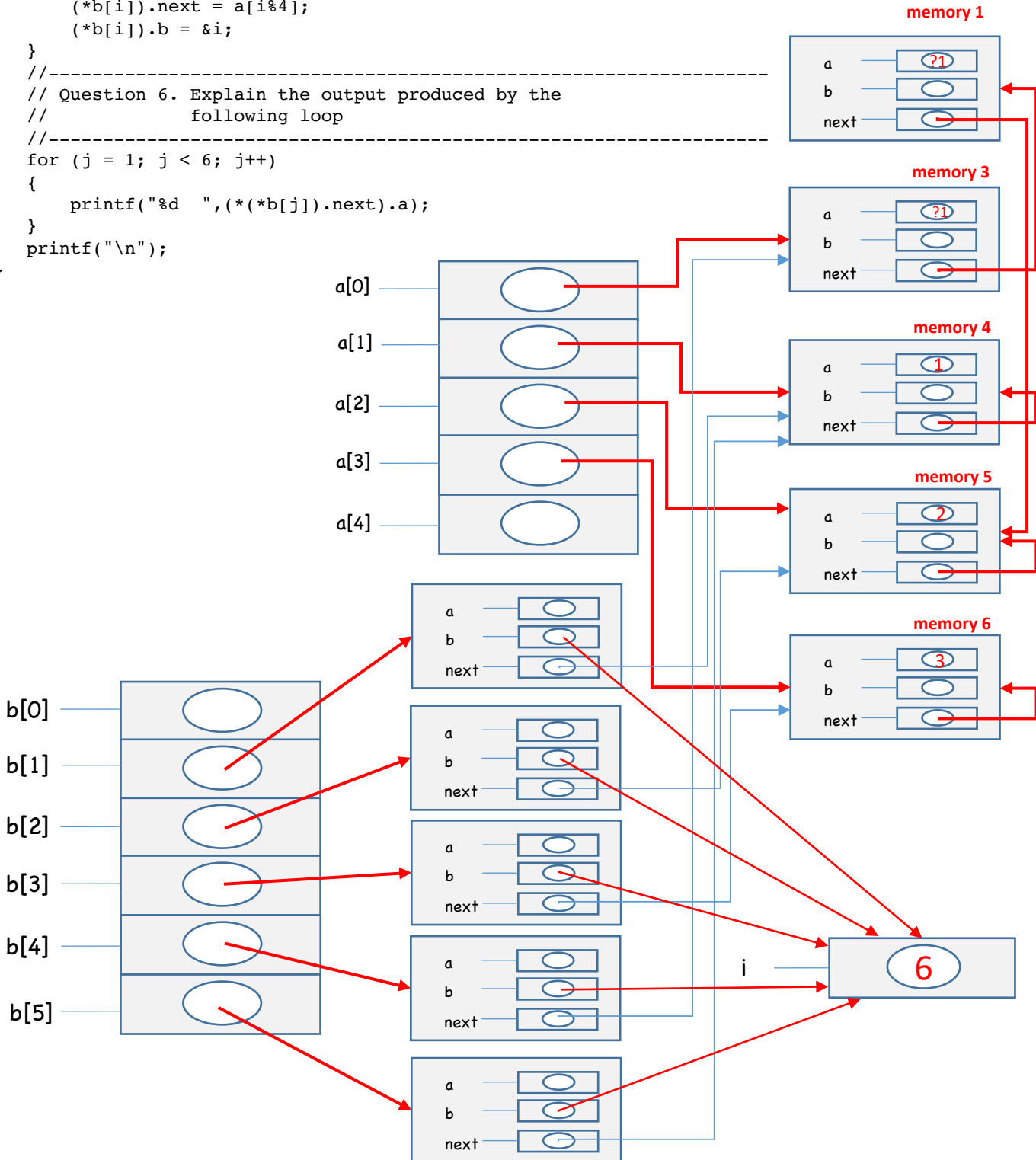
# II Pointer semantics.

```
//-----  
// Question 4. Draw a box-circle diagram of ALL the variables  
// and the memory allocated up to this point?  
// what locations are garbage at this point?  
//-----
```



# II Pointer semantics.

```
{ struct T *b[6];
  int j;
  for (i = 1; i < 6; i++)
  {
    b[i] = (struct T*) malloc(sizeof(struct T));
    (*b[i]).next = a[i%4];
    (*b[i]).b = &i;
  }
  //-----
  // Question 6. Explain the output produced by the
  //           following loop
  //-----
  for (j = 1; j < 6; j++)
  {
    printf("%d ", ((*b[j]).next).a);
  }
  printf("\n");
}
```



**The output is 1 2 3 0 1** which is `*a[1].a *a[2].a *a[3].a *a[0].a`, and `*a[1].a`

The value 0 just happens to be in the field `*a[0].a`. The other values have been set by the program

```
//-----  
// Question 7. What are the dangling references at  
//         this point?  
//-----
```

```

//-----
// Question 8. What locations are garbage at this point?
//-----

```

The diagram illustrates the deletion of a node from a linked list. It shows an array `a` with pointers to nodes. Nodes 1, 2, and 3 are shown in memory. Nodes 4, 5, and 6 are shown as 'garbage'. Node 6 is the target for deletion. The diagram shows the 'next' pointer of node 5 being updated to point to node 6, effectively bypassing node 6. The 'next' pointer of node 6 is shown as a red line, indicating it is to be removed.

## II Pointer semantics.

//-----  
// Question . What are the dangling references at this point.  
//-----

**Answer:** at this point, the locations for the array a are deallocated, but the locations are still accessible. p2 is a dangling reference. Even if the location is not deallocated, we cannot make an assumption about how the locations associated with the array a are used after the scope of a is exited, so p2 should be counted as a dangling reference.

