**MIDTERM ANALYSIS**

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**What pieces did I find most difficult on the midterm?**

For my code, I made a lot of super crazy loops that would iterate through all of the elements of the 2D array. I struggled to make those loops work, because I had three nested for loops and each had a unique iteration. If I had used functions, I feel like my life would have been a lot easier.

**What other factors made the midterm stressful/difficult for me?**

I felt like none of the labs matched the difficulty of the midterm, so the surprise factor threw me off of my game a little bit. I also feel like the time limit was something that made the midterm more stressful, which made it harder for me to think straight. I feel like if this was a lab without TA help/google, then my experience would have been totally different.

**How can I prepare for an exam similar to this in the future?**

I can prepare for similar exams in the future by modifying labs and trying to make them harder. As I experiment, I will learn new approaches and become more comfortable with coding through unfamiliar problems. I can also prepare by paying better attention in class. I sometimes lose interest in the in-class coding examples we do, but sticking with it will help me.

**A comparison between my solution and the provided solution**

Differences--

* The provided solution used functions, which simplified the code and made it more readable
* The provided solution stored 3x3 grid element checks in arrays
* The provided solution added element values to a string and searched it to find repeating numbers
* My solution recycled previous code to check the 3x3 grid

Similarities--

* Both solutions got 100% ;)
* Both solutions contained well-commented code
* Both solutions used boolean flags to determine what to print later on
* Both solutions contained similar logic, whether or not functions were used