

Happy coding! 

◆ Medium Difficulty (25)

1. Count unique characters in a string.

Answer: Use a set or collections.Counter to count unique chars.

Test: "hello" → 4

2. Check if two strings are anagrams.

Answer: Sort both or count frequencies.

Test: "listen", "silent" → True

3. Return the nth Fibonacci number (recursive with memo).

Answer: Use recursion + lru_cache or dict caching.

Test: n=10 → 55

4. Find duplicates in a list.

Answer: Use set to track seen and duplicates list.

Test: [1, 2, 3, 2, 4, 3] → [2, 3]

5. Flatten a nested list.

Answer: Use recursion or iterative stack.

Test: [1, [2, [3, 4]], 5] → [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

6. Merge two sorted lists.

Answer: Two-pointer merge in O(n+m).

Test: [1, 3, 5], [2, 4] → [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

7. Check if parentheses string is valid.

Answer: Use stack and matching pairs.

Test: "([])" → True, "()" → False

8. Find middle node of a linked list.

Answer: Floyd's tortoise and hare.

Test: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] → 3

9. Remove duplicates from a linked list.

Answer: Use hash set.

Test: [1, 2, 2, 3] → [1, 2, 3]

10. Check if binary tree is balanced.

Answer: Recursively check heights ±1.

Test: Balanced tree → True, skewed → False

11. Inorder traversal of a binary tree.

Answer: Recursion or iterative with stack.

Test: Tree [2, 1, 3] → [1, 2, 3]

12. Level-order traversal (BFS) of binary tree.

Answer: Use queue.

Test: Tree [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] → [[1], [2, 3], [4, 5]]

13. Sort characters by frequency.

Answer: Use Counter + sort by value.

Test: "tree" → "eert" or "rtee"

14. Check if number is power of two.

Answer: n>0 and n&(n-1)==0.

Test: 16→True, 18→False

15. Reverse words in a sentence.

Answer: s.split()[::-1] and join.

Test: "hello world"→"world hello"

16. Rotate a matrix 90°.

Answer: Transpose + reverse each row.

Test: [[1, 2], [3, 4]]→[[3, 1], [4, 2]]

17. Spiral order of a matrix.

Answer: Traverse layers with four loops.

Test: [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6], [7, 8, 9]]→[1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 8, 7, 4, 5]

18. Find all subsets (power set).

Answer: Use recursion/backtracking.

Test: [1, 2]→[[], [1], [2], [1, 2]]

19. Generate permutations.

Answer: Use recursion, or itertools.

Test: [1, 2] → [[1, 2], [2, 1]]

20. Find longest common prefix.

Answer: Sort strings and compare first vs last.

Test: ["flower", "flow", "flight"] → "fl"

21. Implement binary search.

Answer: Classic mid-pointer search.

Test: [1, 3, 5, 7], 5 → index 2

22. Count islands in grid.

Answer: Use DFS/BFS to mark visited.

Test: [['1', '0'], ['0', '1']] → 2

23. Convert Roman numeral to integer.

Answer: Iterate, subtract when next is larger.

Test: "MCMIV" → 1904

24. LRU cache class.

Answer: Use OrderedDict or linked hash map.

Test: Chain of puts/gets evict older.

25. Implement stack using two queues.

Answer: Push costly or pop costly variant.

Test: Push 1,2; pop → 2

◆ **Hard Difficulty (25)**

26. Word ladder length.

Answer: BFS over word graph.

Test: "hit", "cog", ["hot", "dot", "dog", "lot", "log", "cog"] → 5

27. Median of two sorted arrays.

Answer: Binary search kth element in O(log(min(m,n))).

Test: [1, 3], [2] → 2.0

28. Find smallest window containing all patterns.

Answer: Sliding window + counts.

Test: s="ADOBECODEBANC", t="ABC"→"BANC"

29. Word break problem.

Answer: DP boolean array.

Test: "leetcode", ["leet", "code"]→True

30. Min path sum in grid.

Answer: DP accumulate along paths.

Test: [[1, 3, 1], [1, 5, 1], [4, 2, 1]]→7

31. Clone a graph.

Answer: DFS with hash map clones.

Test: small adjacency test.

32. Minimum window subsequence.

Answer: Two-pointer with backward trace.

Test: S="abcdebdde", T="bde"→"bcde"

33. Find max flow (Edmonds-Karp).

Answer: BFS augmenting paths.

Test: Simple capacity graph.

34. Trapping rain water.

Answer: Two-pointer method.

Test: [0, 1, 0, 2, 1, 0, 1, 3, 2, 1, 2, 1]→6

35. Serialize and deserialize binary tree.

Answer: Preorder + null markers.

Test: Roundtrip.

36. Maximum rectangle in histogram.

Answer: Monotonic stack.

Test: [2, 1, 5, 6, 2, 3]→10

37. Longest palindromic substring.

Answer: Expand-around-center or Manacher's.

Test: "babad"→"bab" or "aba"

38. Basic calculator with +,-,*,/, parentheses.

Answer: Two stacks or recursive descent.

Test: "3+(2*2)"→7

39. Alien dictionary ordering.

Answer: Build graph and topologically sort.

Test: ["wrt", "wrf", "er", "ett", "rftt"] → valid "wertf"

40. N-Queens count solutions.

Answer: Backtracking with columns and diagonals bitmasks.

Test: n=4 → 2

41. Word search II.

Answer: Trie + DFS in board.

Test: board, words list.

42. Sudoku solver.

Answer: Backtracking + row/col/block checks.

Test: Provide one sample board.

43. LFU Cache.

Answer: Double linked list + freq map.

Test: Eviction pattern.

44. Minimum edit distance.

Answer: DP matrix.

Test: "kitten", "sitting" → 3

45. Largest divisible subset.

Answer: DP sorting divisors.

Test: [1, 2, 4, 8] → [1, 2, 4, 8]

46. Concat words to form a string.

Answer: DP or trie.

Test: ["cat", "cats", "dog", "catsdog"] → True

47. Design hit counter in sliding window.

Answer: Circular buffer of timestamps.

Test: Sequence of hits/time.

48. Find k-th largest in stream.

Answer: Use min-heap of size k.

Test: Stream [4, 5, 8, 2], k=3, queries.

49. Serialize arbitrary nested list.

Answer: JSON-like parser.

Test: "[123, [456, [789]]]".

50. **Regex matching with '.' and '*'.**

Answer: DP with state i,j.

Test: s = "aab", p = "c*a*b" → True

Example Test Case Format

Q3. Fibonacci with memo

- Input: n = 10
- Expected: 55

Q15. Reverse words

- Input: "the sky is blue"
 - Expected: "blue is sky the"
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Happy coding! 