



1. **Which type of traversal does breadth first search do?:** Level-order traversal
2. **Which algorithm is best for finding the shortest distance between two points in an unweighted graph?:** Breadth-First Search

Technically, either depth-first search or breadth-first search can be used find the shortest distance two points in an unweighted graph.

However, in a large graph, depth-first search may go too far in the wrong direction, whereas breadth-first search will traverse the closest points first, and therefore be more efficient.

3. **A person thinks of a number between 1 and 1000. You may ask any number questions to them, provided that the question can be answered with either "yes" or "no".**

What is the minimum number of questions you needed to ask so that you are guaranteed to know the number that the person is thinking?: Correct Answer: 10

A possible strategy is that each time, you divide the possible number into two distinct groups, and ask the question in a way so that you will know which group the answer belongs to. This way, you are guaranteed to know the answer within $\text{ceil}(\log_2(1000)) = 10$ questions.

This is the basic principle of binary search.

4. **What is the best way of checking if an element exists in an unsorted array once in terms of time complexity? Select the best that applies.:** Linear Search
5. **What's the output of running the following function using the following tree as input? (1 2 3 6)**

```
def serialize(root):
    2 res = []
    3 def dfs(root):
    4 if not root:
    5 res.append('x')
    6 return
    7 res.append(root.val)
    8 dfs(root.left)
    9 dfs(root.right)
    10 dfs(root)
    11 return ' '.join(res)
```

```
function serialize(root) {
    2 let res = [];
    3 serialize_dfs(root, res);
    4 return res.join(" ");
    5 }
    6 function serialize_dfs(root, res) {
    7 if (!root) {
    8 res.push("x");
    9 return;
    10 }
    11 res.push(root.val);
    12 serialize_dfs(root.left, res);
    13 serialize_dfs(root.right, res);
    14 }
    15 }
    16
```

Correct Answer: 1 2 3 x x x 6 x x

The code traverse the tree depth-first and prints the node value (x if node is null).

6. **How many ways can you arrange the three letters A, B and C?:** 6

The number of permutations between three letters is given by factorial of 3, ie. $3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$. The permutations are: ABC, ACB, BAC, BCA, CAB, CBA.

We can list all the permutations using backtracking.

7. **Consider the classic dynamic programming of fibonacci numbers, what is the recurrence relation?:** $dp[i] = dp[i - 1] + dp[i - 2]$



8. What is an advantages of top-down dynamic programming vs bottom-up dynamic programming?: Correct Answer:

Order of computer subproblems does not matter

9. Is the following code DFS or BFS?

```
1 void search(Node root) {
2   if (!root) return;
3   visit(root);
4   root.visited = true;
5   for (Node node in root.adjacent) {
6     if (!node.visited) {
7       search(node);
8     }
9   }
10 }
```

Depth First Search

10. Which of the following uses divide and conquer strategy?: Merge Sort

11. How does quick sort divide the problem into subproblems?: Correct Answer:

Divide the array into two based on whether an element is smaller than an arbitrary value

12. Which of the following array represent a max heap?: Correct Answer:

20 12 16 1 2 3 4

13. A heap is a ...?: Correct Answer: Tree

A heap is a tree with special "heap properties" - almost complete and each node's value is smaller/larger than its parent's value (min/max heap).

14. What does the following code do?

```
def f(arr1, arr2):
2   i, j = 0, 0
3   new_arr = []
4   while i < len(arr1) and j < len(arr2):
5     if arr1[i] < arr2[j]:
6       new_arr.append(arr1[i])
7     i += 1
8   else:
9     new_arr.append(arr2[j])
10    j += 1
11  new_arr.extend(arr1[i:])
12  new_arr.extend(arr2[j:])
13  return new_arr
```

```
function f(arr1, arr2) {
2   let i = 0, j = 0;
3   let newArr = [];
4   5 while (i < arr1.length && j < arr2.length) {
6     if (arr1[i] < arr2[j]) {
7       newArr.push(arr1[i]);
8     }
9   }
10  else {
11    newArr.push(arr2[j]);
12    j++;
13  }
14  15 while (i < arr1.length) {
16    newArr.push(arr1[i]);
17    i++;
18  }
19  20 while (j < arr2.length) {
21    newArr.push(arr2[j]);
22    j++;
23  }
24  25 return newArr;
26 }
```

Correct Answer: Merge two sorted arrays.

15. Which two pointer techniques do you use to check if a string is a palindrome?: Your Answer:

Two pointers moving in opposite direction