

This program taught me a lot. I started it out writing the constructors, append, and print. It only took me about an hour to set up and get those basic functions working. Then, I got to merge, merge sort, and split functions. Just reading the instructions I got really confused. At that point I wasn't very good at understanding merge sort at all. I couldn't understand what any of the functions were doing or why. It was very frustrating, but I knew I had to give it some time.

When the first exam came up, I was forced to learn how to iterate through merge sort from memory. Looking back, I didn't need to know that for the test, but it really helped me when it came to program two. I started drawing out diagrams of what my functions were doing. Over and over, I had to restart and rethink the mechanics of merge sort. I got so frustrated, and I had to step away multiple times to calm down. Then, just as I was about to really give up, the day before it was due, I think the peace of letting go allowed me to focus enough. I finally got my merge sort to work.

Looking back, this program was what I needed. I really hated how confusing the instructions were at times. Its ambiguity forced me to go deeper than a basic understanding of both merge sort and recursion.