

# ❓ PART 1: TIME & SPACE COMPLEXITY (FOUNDATION)

## 1 📦 Time Complexity — Sub-Topics (IN THIS ORDER)

### 1.1 What is Time Complexity?

- Why we measure time
- Input size  $n$
- Worst case vs average case
- Big-O notation (idea, not math)

### 1.2 Common Time Complexities

- $O(1)$
- $O(\log n)$
- $O(n)$
- $O(n \log n)$
- $O(n^2)$
- $O(2^n)$  (intro only)

### 1.3 How to Calculate Time Complexity

- Single loop
- Nested loops
- Loops with different variables
- Recursion (basic idea only)

### 1.4 Comparing Solutions

- Why  $O(n)$  is better than  $O(n^2)$
- When slower solution is acceptable

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## 2 📦 Space Complexity — Sub-Topics

### 2.1 What is Space Complexity?

- Input space
- Auxiliary space
- In-place algorithms

## 2.2 Common Space Cases

- Constant space  $O(1)$
  - Linear space  $O(n)$
  - Recursion stack space
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## 3 Complexity — What YOU Should Practice

### DO NOW

- Identify complexity of given code
- Compare two solutions
- Predict growth as input increases

### DO NOT

- Memorize formulas
  - Overthink recursion space now
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### Complexity Learning Loop

Kunal lecture → self-explain → 5-8 small questions → DONE

Once done, **move on**. Don't get stuck here.

## ESSENTIAL TIME COMPLEXITY PROBLEMS (DO ONLY THESE)

### PART 1: LOOP-BASED COMPLEXITY (MOST IMPORTANT)

You don't need specific "questions" here — you need to be able to do **this skill**.

**You MUST practice:**

1. **Single loop**
2. `for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)`

→  $O(n)$

### 3. Nested loops

```
4. for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
5.     for (int j = 0; j < n; j++)
```

→  $O(n^2)$

### 6. Dependent loops

```
7. for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
8.     for (int j = i; j < n; j++)
```

→  $O(n^2)$

### 9. Log loop

```
10. while (n > 1) n /= 2;
```

→  $O(\log n)$

☐ If you can analyze these confidently, you're good.

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## ☐ PART 2: ESSENTIAL RECURRENCE RELATIONS (FROM KUNAL)

From your screenshot, **DO ONLY THESE TYPES:**

### ☐ MUST-DO RECURRENCES

#### 1 ☐ Linear recursion

$$T(n) = T(n - 1) + c$$

→  $O(n)$

Purpose: understand simple recursion growth.

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#### 2 ☐ Linear + work

$$T(n) = T(n - 1) + n$$

→  $O(n^2)$

Purpose: see accumulation of work.

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### 3 ☐ Divide & conquer (basic)

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$$

→  **$O(n \log n)$**

Purpose: understand merge sort.

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### 4 ☐ Single subproblem

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + n$$

→  **$O(n)$**

Purpose: binary search–style thinking.

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### 5 ☐ Slight variation (OPTIONAL but useful)

$$T(n) = 2T(n/4) + n$$

→  **$O(n)$**

Purpose: intuition that not all D&C =  $n \log n$ .

## ☐ 5 ESSENTIAL PRACTICE QUESTIONS (TIME COMPLEXITY)

### ☐ Question 1: Single Loop (Baseline)

```
int sum = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    sum += i;
}
```

**Tasks:**

1. What is the time complexity?
2. What is the space complexity?
3. Does `sum` affect complexity?

☐ This checks if you understand **linear growth**.

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## ☐ Question 2: Nested Loop (Classic)

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
    for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {  
        System.out.println(i + j);  
    }  
}
```

### Tasks:

1. Time complexity?
2. What if `j = i` instead of `0`?
3. Does printing change Big-O?

☐ This checks **quadratic intuition**.

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## ☐ Question 3: Logarithmic Loop

```
int count = 0;  
while (n > 1) {  
    n = n / 2;  
    count++;  
}
```

### Tasks:

1. How many times does the loop run?
2. Time complexity?
3. Space complexity?

☐ This tests **log n thinking**.

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## ☐ Question 4: Linear Recursion

```
void func(int n) {  
    if (n == 0) return;  
    func(n - 1);  
}
```

### Tasks:

1. Write the recurrence relation.
2. Time complexity?
3. Space complexity? (IMPORTANT)

☐ This introduces **recursion stack space**.

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## ☐ Question 5: Divide & Conquer (Key One)

```
void func(int n) {  
    if (n <= 1) return;  
    func(n / 2);  
    func(n / 2);  
}
```

### Tasks:

1. Write the recurrence.
2. Draw the recursion tree (levels).
3. Time complexity?
4. Space complexity?

☐ This connects directly to **merge sort logic**.

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## ☐ PART 2: ARRAYS — PROPER STRUCTURE WITH SUB-TOPICS

Arrays is **NOT one topic**. It is a **container of techniques**.

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## PHASE A: ARRAY BASICS (YOU START HERE)

## **A1. Fundamentals**

- What is an array?
- Indexing (0-based)
- 1D arrays
- 2D arrays

## **A2. Traversal Techniques**

- Forward traversal
- Reverse traversal
- Nested traversal (2D)

## **A3. Basic Operations**

- Insert (conceptual)
- Delete (conceptual)
- Update
- Search (linear)

## **A4. Simple Patterns**

- Max / min
- Count elements
- Sum / average

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## **☐ QUESTIONS FOR PHASE A**

(Only these from Kunal sheet)

- Build Array from Permutation
- Concatenation of Array
- Running Sum of 1D Array
- Richest Customer Wealth
- Shuffle the Array
- Kids With the Greatest Number of Candies
- How Many Numbers Are Smaller Than the Current Number
- Create Target Array in the Given Order
- Count Items Matching a Rule
- Cells with Odd Values in a Matrix
- Matrix Diagonal Sum
- Flipping an Image
- Find Numbers with Even Number of Digits
- Transpose Matrix

- Add to Array-Form of Integer
  - Maximum Population Year
  - Reshape the Matrix
  - Determine Whether Matrix Can Be Obtained by Rotation
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## **PHASE B: TWO POINTERS (NEW TECHNIQUE)**

### **B1. Concept**

- What are two pointers?
- Left & right pointer
- When to move which pointer

### **B2. Patterns**

- Shrinking window
- Swapping
- Partitioning

### **☐ QUESTIONS FOR PHASE B**

- Remove Duplicates from Sorted Array
  - Sort Colors
  - Rotate Array
  - Minimum Cost to Move Chips to the Same Position
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## **PHASE C: PREFIX SUM / KADANE**

### **C1. Prefix Sum**

- Prefix array
- Range sum
- Avoid recomputation

### **C2. Kadane's Algorithm**

- Max subarray sum
- Reset logic

### **☐ QUESTIONS FOR PHASE C**



- Maximum Subarray
  - Product of Array Except Self
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## **PHASE D: SLIDING WINDOW**

### **D1. Fixed Window**

- Window size constant

### **D2. Variable Window**

- Expand / shrink window

#### **☐ QUESTIONS FOR PHASE D**

- Jump Game (later)
  - (More will come from curated list)
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## **PHASE E: HASHING WITH ARRAYS**

### **E1. HashMap Basics**

- Frequency counting
- Seen before logic

### **E2. Prefix + Hashing**

- Subarray problems

#### **☐ QUESTIONS FOR PHASE E**

- Two Sum
  - Number of Good Pairs
  - Lucky Number in a Matrix
  - Find N Unique Integers Sum up to Zero
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## **PHASE F: NOT ARRAYS (SKIP NOW)**

- House Robber → DP
- Find First and Last Position → Binary Search
- First Missing Positive → Advanced index mapping
- Max Value of Equation → Advanced optimization