

Problem Set 1, Part I

Problem 3: Recursion and the runtime stack

3-1)

mystery(20, 6)

```
a = 20
b = 6
myst_rest = mystery(14, 6) = 7
return 7 + 2 = 9
```

mystery(14, 6)

```
a = 14
b = 6
myst_rest = mystery(8, 6) = 5
Return 5 + 2 = 7
```

mystery(8, 6)

```
a = 8
b = 6
myst_rest = mystery(2, 6) = 3
Return 3 + 2 = 5
```

mystery(2, 6)

```
a = 2
b = 6
myst_rest = mystery(-2, 6) = 1
Return 1 + 2 = 3
```

3-2) The value is 9

3-3) The stack stopped when we reached mystery(-2, 6)

At that time we have :

- mystery(20, 6)
- mystery(14, 6)
- mystery(8, 6)
- mystery(2, 6)
- mystery(-2, 6)

In total we have total of 5 stack frames, including main we have 6 stack frames

3-4) a value that made the recursive became infinite is when the a value never reaches the condition $a < 0$, which is when b is $0 \leq$ and $a \geq 0$ because this way a will either increase or stays the same, hence it will never meet the condition $a < 0$

(a,b) = infinite, when :

$a \geq 0$ (if it's < 0 it will immediately return a value)

and

$b \leq 0$