# **Quordle Keyboard**

#### **Instructions**

Similar to Wordle, Quordle requires the user to solve for four five-letter words (answers) in nine attempts or fewer.

After each attempt, letters on the provided keyboard will be greyed out if they are no longer required. This may be the case if the answers containing that letter are solved, or it was not used in any of the answers. Greyed out letters can still be used in future attempts.

There are two parts to the challenge.

- 1. We would like you to derive a numeric string based on when are the letters greyed out.
- 2. We would also like to perform a simple checksum-like computation.

Assumptions for the purpose of this challenge:

- Each word is not actually an English word, it is really just a random sequence of five letters (A to Z, single case, may repeat).
- The four answers are distinct.
- There are at least four attempts (one per answer), and no more than nine attempts; if it helps all answers will be found.

## **Endpoint**

Create an endpoint /quordleKeyboard that accepts a JSON payload over POST described below.

### Input

Example of said JSON payload:

```
{
   "answers": ["ABCDE", "FGHIJ", "KLMNO", "PQRST"],
   "attempts": ["XYZXY", "ABCDE", "FGHIJ", "AAAAA", "PQRST", "KLMNO"],
   "numbers": [125, 441, 968, 137, 417, 554, 978, 666, 145, 137, 343, 26, 898, 54, 22
}
```

For part 1, you can ignore the "numbers" attribute; that is only applicable in part two.

## **Output**

The output (i.e. your answer) to return should be in the shape of:

```
{
   "part1": "55555444441111122222666",
   "part2": "HTKRGUVW"
}
```

Our evaluation is flexible enough to determine the scoring based on given attributes, more will be explained in the scoring section below.

#### **Part One**

We would like to see when are the letters greyed out after every attempt.

After the last attempt (which will also be an answer), we will map each *greyed out* letter (in sequence) to the number of attempts it has been greyed out for.

In other words, the resulting string of numbers will not contain a 0.

### **Example**

- Answers: [VVIDH, MZLPS, BPCYN, XYGGM]
- Attempts: [JKGJB, ZGRUJ, XYGGM, BPCYN, MHXGE, DZENT, ZXWQW, VVIDH, MZLPS]

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
JKGJB
        ABCDEFGHI LMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
                                     J, K not in remaining 4 answers
ZGRUJ
        ABCDEFGHI LMNOPQ ST VWXYZ
                                     R, U not in remaining 4 answers
        ABCDEF HI LMNOPQ ST VW YZ
XYGGM
                                     G, X not in remaining 3 answers
BPCYN
        A DEF HI LM OPQ ST VW Z
                                     B, C, N, Y not in remaining 2 answers
                                     E not in remaining 2 answers
MHXGE
        A D F HI LM OPQ ST VW Z
DZENT
        A D F HI LM OPQ S VW Z
                                     T not in remaining 2 answers
                                Ζ
                                     Q, W not in remaining 2 answers
ZXWQW
        A D F HI LM OP S V
                                Z
VVIDH
             F
                   LM OP S
                                     D, H, I, V not in remaining answer
        Α
             F
MZLPS
                      0
                                     L, M, P, S, Z answered, left with only A, F,
```

We can see A has not been greyed out, B has been greyed out for 6 times, and likewise for C.

If we were to replace the greyed out letters with the numeric value (empty columns) and the remaining letters with , we can see:

	ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ						
JKGJB			99				
ZGRUJ			99		8	8	
XYGGM		7	99		8	8	7
BPCYN	66	7	99	6	8	8	76
MHXGE	66 5	7	99	6	8	8	76
DZENT	66 5	7	99	6	8	48	76
ZXWQW	66 5	7	99	6	38	48	376
VVIDH	6625	72	299	6	38	482	2376
MZLPS	6625	72	2991	16	1381	1482	23761

Therefore, the answer to the first part of the challenge is "66257229911613814823761". Note that it should be treated as a string of numbers, not a numeric-typed value.

#### **Part Two**

This is a continuation of part 1's answer and the "numbers" attribute on the input.

We will now need to derive a letter sequence based on the following steps:

- 1. Partition the 25-element number list into continuous lists of 5 elements each.
- 2. For each partition, check if the number can be found in part 1's answer, mapping this true|false value to 1|0.
- 3. Convert this five-digit binary representation into a number, representing a letter's position in the alphabet, i.e. 1 to A, 26 to Z.
- 4. Finally, join these five letters with *leftover* letters in order, if there are any left.

### **Example**

Continuing from part 1's example:

- Answers: [VVIDH, MZLPS, BPCYN, XYGGM]
- Attempts: [JKGJB, ZGRUJ, XYGGM, BPCYN, MHXGE, DZENT, ZXWQW, VVIDH, MZLPS]
- Numbers: [761, 720, 13, 750, 936, 237, 482, 609, 585, 706, 240, 23, 76, 61, 700, 711, 823, 406, 376, 455, 818, 482, 338, 572, 257]

Part 1's answer for this is "66257229911613814823761", with leftover letters "AFO".

Following the partitioning and the conversion, we get the following letters:

Therefore, the answer to the second part of the challenge is "TXNJKAFO".

## **Scoring**

Refresher on the output:

```
{
    "part1": "55555444441111122222666",
    "part2": "HTKRGUVW"
}
```

If we encounter any error parsing the response, the score is 0.

#### Part 1

If "part1" is absent, or it does not match the string of digits 1-9 with the expected length, the score is 0.

Else, starting with a score of 20, subtract the absolute difference per digit to get part 1's score, with a minimum of 0.

#### **Examples**

```
"111345135153444"
"111345135153444"
"911345135153444"
"9177145135153444"
"9777145135153444" -> 20 - 8 - 6 - 6 - 2 -> 0 (minimum)
```

#### Part 2

If "part2" is the expected answer, the score is 30.

Else, if there are leftover letters and "part2" ends with those in order, the score is 15.

Else, the score is 0.

### **Scoring Summary**

The score range for part 1 is [0, 20] and that for part 2 is [0, 30].

There will be four evaluation attempts, summing to a maximum of 200 before that raw score is halved (rounding down), then multiplied by the challenge weightage.

## **Example**

See here.