

**Task 2: Linked List Middle Element Search** You are given a singly linked list. Write a function to find the middle element without using any extra space and only one traversal through the linked list.

**1. Two Pointers:**

- Use two pointers, slow and fast.
- Initially, both pointers are at the head of the list.
- Move slow one step at a time.
- Move fast two steps at a time.
- When fast reaches the end of the list, slow will be at the middle.

**2. Implementation in Java**

- Here is the Java code to find the middle element of a singly linked list:

```
class LinkedList {  
  
    Node head; // head of the list  
  
    static class Node {  
  
        int data;  
  
        Node next;  
  
        // Constructor to create a new node  
  
        Node(int d) {  
  
            data = d;  
  
            next = null;  
  
        }  
  
    }  
  
    // Function to print the middle element of the linked list  
  
    void printMiddle() {  
  
        Node slow = head;  
  
        Node fast = head;  
  
        if (head != null) {  
  
            while (fast != null && fast.next != null) {  
  
                fast = fast.next.next;  
  
                slow = slow.next;  
  
            }  
  
            System.out.println("The middle element is [" + slow.data + "] \n");  
  
        }  
  
    }  
  
}
```

```
}  
}
```

// Function to add a new node at the end of the list

```
public void addToTheLast(Node node) {  
    if (head == null) {  
        head = node;  
    } else {  
        Node temp = head;  
        while (temp.next != null) {  
            temp = temp.next;  
        }  
        temp.next = node;  
    }  
}
```

// Function to print the linked list

```
void printList() {  
    Node temp = head;  
    while (temp != null) {  
        System.out.print(temp.data + " ");  
        temp = temp.next;  
    }  
    System.out.println();  
}
```

// Main method to test the linked list

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    LinkedList llist = new LinkedList();
```

```

// Adding nodes to the list
l1.addToList(new Node(1));
l1.addToList(new Node(2));
l1.addToList(new Node(3));
l1.addToList(new Node(4));
l1.addToList(new Node(5));

// Printing the list
System.out.println("The linked list is:");
l1.printList();

// Printing the middle element
l1.printMiddle();
}
}

```

### **Explanation**

#### **3. Node Class:**

- The Node class represents each node in the linked list and contains an integer data and a reference to the next node.

#### **4. LinkedList Class:**

- Contains a reference to the head node of the list.
- addToList(Node node) method adds a new node at the end of the list.
- printList() method prints all the elements of the list.
- printMiddle() method finds and prints the middle element using the tortoise and hare approach.

#### **5. Main Method:**

- Creates an instance of LinkedList.
- Adds nodes to the linked list.
- Prints the linked list.
- Finds and prints the middle element.