



Question - 1

Merge Strings

Complete the *mergeStrings* function in your editor. It has 2 parameters:

1. A string, *a*.
2. A string, *b*.

Your function must *merge* strings *a* and *b*, and then return a single merged string. A *merge* operation on two strings is described as follows:

- Append alternating characters from *a* and *b*, respectively, to some new string, *mergedString*.
- Once all of the characters in one of the strings have been merged, append the remaining characters in the other string to *mergedString*.

Input Format

The locked stub code in your editor reads two strings, *a* and *b*, from stdin and passes them to your function.

Constraints

- $1 \leq |a|, |b| \leq 25000$

Output Format

Your function must return the *merged* string. This will be printed to stdout by the locked stub code in your editor.

Sample Input 1

```
abc  
def
```

Sample Output 1

```
adbecf
```

Sample Input 2

```
ab  
zsd
```

Sample Output 2

```
azbsd
```

Explanation

Sample Case 1

a = *abc*

b = *def*

Taking alternate characters from both the strings, we

$a = ab$

$b = zsd$

Taking alternate characters from both the strings, we get $azbsd$

Question - 2

HackLand Election

There are n citizens voting in this year's *HackLand election*. Each voter writes the name of their chosen candidate on a ballot and places it in a ballot box.

The candidate with the highest number of votes wins the election;

if two or more candidates have the same number of votes, then the tied candidates' names are ordered alphabetically and the *last* name wins.

Complete the `electionWinner` function in your editor. It has 1 parameter: an array of strings, `votes`, describing the votes in the ballot box. This function must review these votes and return a string representing the name of the winning candidate.

Input Format

The locked stub code in your editor reads the following input from stdin and passes it to your function:

The first line contains an integer, n , denoting the size of the `votes` array.

Each line i of the n subsequent lines (where $0 \leq i < n$) of strings contains a citizen's vote in the form of a candidate's name.

Constraints

- $1 \leq n \leq 10^4$

Output Format

Your function must return a *string* denoting the name of the *winner*. This is printed to stdout by the locked stub code in your editor.

Sample Input 1

```
10
Alex
Michael
Harry
Dave
Michael
Victor
Harry
Alex
Mary
Mary
```

Sample Output 1

```
Michael
```

Explanation 1

`votes = {"Alex", "Michael", "Harry", "Dave", "Michael",`

`"Victor", "Harry", "Alex", "Mary", "Mary"}`

Alex, Harry, Michael, and Mary are all tied for the highest number of votes. Because Michael is alphabetically last, we return his name as the winner.

Sample Input 2

```
10
Victor
Veronica
Ryan
Dave
Maria
Maria
Farah
Farah
Ryan
Veronica
```

Sample Output 2

```
Veronica
```

Explanation 2

`votes = {"Victor", "Veronica", "Ryan", "Dave", "Maria", "Maria", "Farah", "Farah", "Ryan", "Veronica"}`

Veronica, Ryan, Maria, and Farah are all tied for the highest number of votes. Because Veronica is alphabetically last, we return her name as the winner.

Question - 3

Minimum Amount

Alex is shopping at a flea market and stops at a stand displaying a row of N items numbered from 0 to $N-1$ where the i^{th} ($0 \leq i \leq N-1$) item has a cost, c_i .

Noticing Alex's interest, the stand owner makes the following offer: if Alex agrees to purchase all N items, the owner will discount each item i by the amount of the cheapest item to the left of i^{th} item.

In other words, discount d_i for item i is the minimum c_k where $0 \leq k < i$; if discount d_i is greater than cost c_i , Alex gets item i for free. The very first item ($i = 0$) must be purchased at full price (without a discount).

Complete the `calculateAmount` function (which takes the array of costs, `arr`, as a parameter) so that it calculates the total amount Alex must pay to buy all N items and then returns that result as a `long`.

Input Format

The `calculateAmount` function has a parameter, `arr`, which is the array of integers denoting the *cost* of each item.

The locked code in the editor handles reading the following input from stdin, assembling it into an array of integers (`prices`), and calling `calculateAmount(prices)`.

The first line of input contains N , the number of items for sale. Each line i of the N subsequent lines describes the i^{th} item cost as an integer, c_i .

Constraints

- $1 \leq N \leq 2 \times 10^6$
- $1 \leq c_i \leq 2 \times 10^6$, where $1 \leq i \leq N$

Output Format

Your `calculateAmount` function should return a *long* denoting the amount paid by Alex to purchase each of the N items. The locked stub code in the editor will then print this result.

Sample Input 1

```
4
4
9
2
3
```

Sample Output 1

```
10
```

Sample Input 2

```
4
1
2
3
4
```

Sample Output 2

```
7
```

Explanation

Sample Case 1:

$N = 4$, $prices = \{4, 9, 2, 3\}$

$c_0 = 4$; $d_0 = 0$; $price_0 = 4$ (the first item is not discounted)

$c_1 = 9$; $d_1 = 4$; $price_1 = 9 - 4 = 5$

$c_2 = 2$; $d_2 = \min(4, 9) = 4$; $price_2 = 0$ because $d_2 > c_2$

$c_3 = 3$; $d_3 = \min(4, 9, 2) = 2$; $price_3 = 3 - 2 = 1$

The total cost (*result*) returned by our `calculate_amount` function is $4 + 5 + 0 + 1 = 10$

Sample Case 2

$N = 4$, $prices = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$c_0 = 1$; $d_0 = 0$; $price_0 = 1$ (the first item is not discounted)

$c_1 = 2$; $d_1 = 1$; $price_1 = 2 - 1 = 1$

$c_2 = 3$; $d_2 = \min(1, 2) = 1$; $price_2 = 3 - 1 = 2$

$c_3 = 4$; $d_3 = \min(1, 2, 3) = 1$; $price_3 = 4 - 1 = 3$

The total cost (*result*) returned by our `calculate_amount` function is $1 + 1 + 2 + 3 = 7$.

ExcludeAndSum

Given 3 int values, a b c, return their sum. However, if any of the values is a teen -- in the range 13..19 inclusive -- then that value counts as 0, except 15 and 16 that do not count as a teens.

Examples:

noTeenSum(1, 2, 3) → 6

noTeenSum(2, 13, 1) → 3

noTeenSum(2, 1, 15) → 18

Question - 5

Armstrong Numbers

A positive integer is called an Armstrong number if the sum of cubes of individual digit is equal to that number itself. For example:

$153 = 1*1*1 + 5*5*5 + 3*3*3$ // 153 is an Armstrong number.

12 is not equal to $1*1*1 + 2*2*2$ // 12 is not an Armstrong number.

Write a Program that checks whether a given number is a Armstrong number and prints "Armstrong Number" or "Not a Armstrong Number"

Sample Input : 153

Sample Output : Armstrong Number

Sample Input:12

Sample Output : Not an Armstrong Number