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## PSEUDOCODE

If you recall from Problem Set 4, creating *pseudocode* is the process of writing out the algorithm/solution in a form that is like code, but is not quite code. Pseudocode is language independent, uses plain English (or your native language), and is readily understandable. Algorithm related articles

([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Algorithms\\_on\\_Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Algorithms_on_Wikipedia)) on Wikipedia often use pseudocode to explain the algorithm.

Think of writing pseudocode like you would explain it to another person -- it doesn't generally have to conform to any particular syntax as long as what's happening is clear to the grader. - Paul McMillan (<http://stackoverflow.com/users/114917/paul-mcmillan>)

Read more about the whats and whys of pseudocode here ([/static/content-mit-600x~2012\\_Fall/files/ps04\\_files/WhyPseudocode.836530b709d3.pdf](/static/content-mit-600x~2012_Fall/files/ps04_files/WhyPseudocode.836530b709d3.pdf)).

In order to help you solve the following problems correctly, we strongly suggest that you try writing pseudocode for your solutions to Problem 2 before starting to code. To do this, read Problem 2, and think about *high level algorithms* to solve the problem, and write down the steps in your algorithms.

After you have made an honest attempt at writing your own pseudocode, then open `ps5_pseudo.txt` to compare your pseudocode to ours. **We strongly encourage you to write your own pseudocode for this problem before looking at the staff's pseudocode.** To write the Python code that actually solves Problem 2, feel free to use the staff's pseudocode as a reference, or your own if you believe that it is correct.

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