

243. Shortest Word Distance

Easy

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Given an array of strings `wordsDict` and two different strings that already exist in the array `word1` and `word2`, return *the shortest distance between these two words in the list*.

Example 1:

Input: wordsDict = ["practice", "makes", "perfect", "coding", "makes"], word1 = "coding", word2 = "practice"

Output: 3

Example 2:

Input: wordsDict = ["practice", "makes", "perfect", "coding", "makes"], word1 = "makes", word2 = "coding"

Output: 1

Constraints:

- 1 <= wordsDict.length <= 3 \* 10<sup>4</sup>
- 1 <= wordsDict[i].length <= 10
- wordsDict[i] consists of lowercase English letters.
- word1 and word2 are in wordsDict.
- word1 != word2

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```
1 class Solution {
2     public int shortestDistance(String[] words, String word1, String word2) {
3         int i1 = -1, i2 = -1;
4         int minDistance = words.length;
5         for (int i = 0; i < words.length; i++) {
6             if (words[i].equals(word1)) {
7                 i1 = i;
8             } else if (words[i].equals(word2)) {
9                 i2 = i;
10            }
11
12            if (i1 != -1 && i2 != -1) {
13                minDistance = Math.min(minDistance, Math.abs(i1 - i2));
14            }
15        }
16        return minDistance;
17    }
18 }
```

