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ZKU Background Assignment

A. Conceptual Knowledge

1. ***What is a smart contract? How are they deployed? You should be able to describe how a smart contract is deployed and the necessary steps.***
    a. Smart contracts are a set of instructions that is not only stored in one computer, but a set of computers. These sets of instructions can be anything. To store how many candies have you bought, how much money you have in your piggy bank and many more things.
    b. In order to write these sets of instructions you need a language. For smart contracts Solidity is used to write the instruction. This piece of instruction is called code.
    c. After writing the code there's an intermediary check, like a security check that all the code is correct and there is no mistake in the set of instructions. This process is called compilation. And the security guard who does the work is known as compiler.
    d. After all the things are done, the compiled code is sent to a wizardly place where once things are stored they can never be deleted. This place is known as blockchain and you can send any instructions over it.
    e. This wizardly place aka blockchain is a set of computers which are running to ensure that your piece of code does not get changed after getting stored.
2. ***What is gas? Why is gas optimization such a big focus when building smart contracts?***
    a. Whenever we want to travel from point A to point B in car, we need gasoline in our car. Remember we discussed smart contracts and how they are deployed. If you want to add data into the blockchain (that spooky network), you have to have some gas for it. Other than storing the code, if you want to add data such as you want to increase the count of candies eaten today by 1, this action also requires gas.
    b. Even in the real world, we have cars that are old and consume more gas and we have new and optimized cars which consume very less gas and give a good average. The same is with the writing of smart contracts. Your set of instructions should be well defined and optimized so that upon executing them, a minimal amount of gas is used. Imagine if you had to pay $1 worth of gas to update your candy count which also cost $1. That is not efficient.
3. ***What is a hash? Why do people use hashing to hide information?***
    a. Hash is a long fixed length random mumble jumble word. Like this "6b86b273ff34fce19d6b804eff5a3f5747ada4eaa22f1d49c01e52ddb7875b4b". This is equivalent to "1". Hashing is useful for large pieces of information and data. Because it doesn't matter upon the size of data, the hash word or string will

be of the same length. If you change the information even from lower case to upper case, the hash of the data will change.

b. It also provides security to your data. Suppose you don't want to store the names of the candies in the smart contract, as everyone will know then. You will make hashes of the name and store the information.
c. Hashing is a very core component of the spooky network aka blockchain.

4. ***How would you prove to a colorblind person that two different colored objects are actually of different colors?***
    a. Let's consider two actors, Alice and Bob. Alice wants to prove to Bob that she holds two different colored balls. Bob is color blind. Now this is how the interaction between both of them will go through
        i. Bob will take both balls and will switch the balls and give them back to Alice.
        ii. Bob will ask Alice if the balls are switched or not?
        iii. Alice can see colors, so if the balls are switched she will respond positively.
        iv. This interaction repeats multiple times so that Bob trusts Alice that she isn't lying at all.
        v. If the balls are not switched and Alice lies that they are switched, Bob will ultimately know that Alice is lying.

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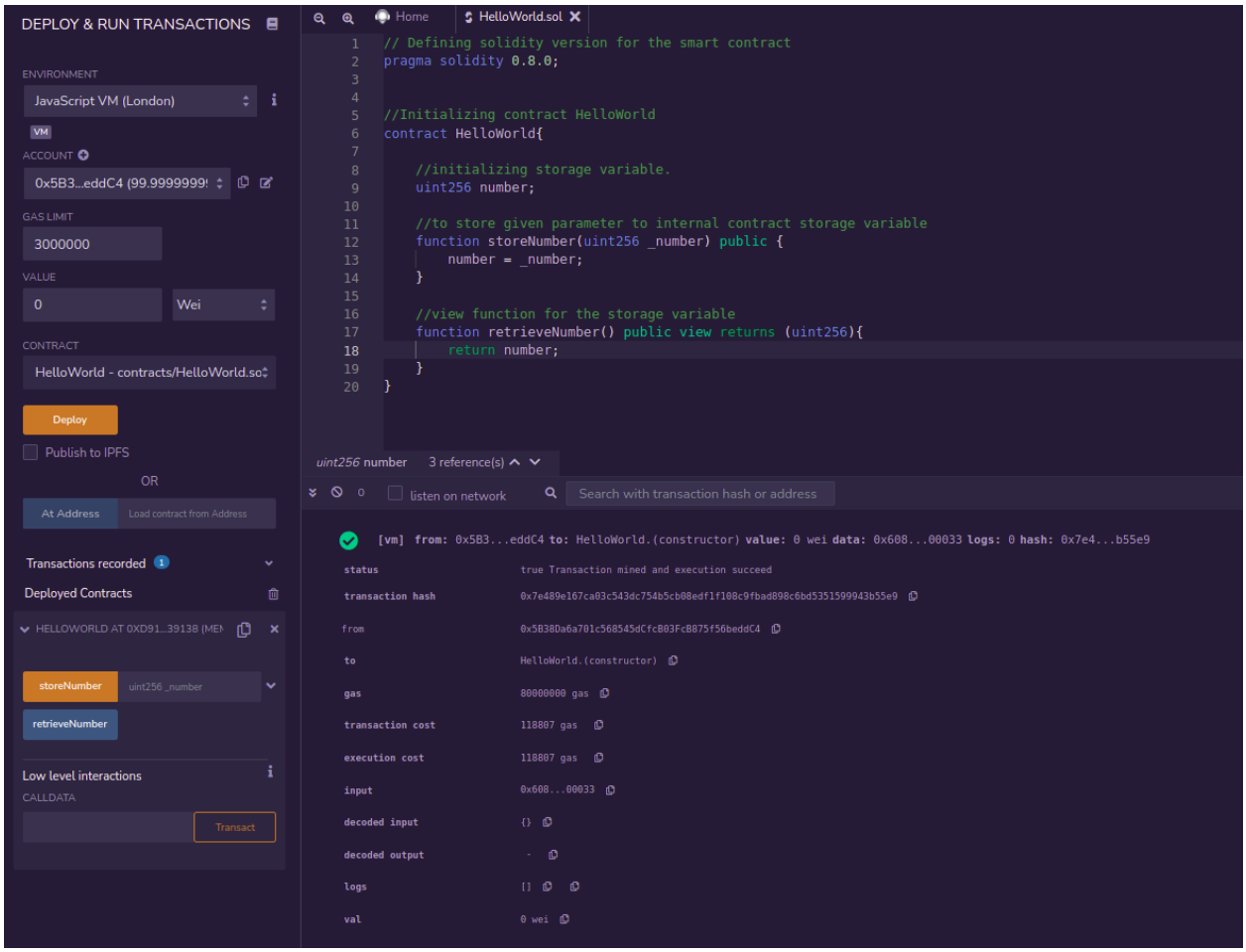
B. You sure you're solid with Solidity?

1. Github URL (https://github.com/shakeib98/zku-assignment/blob/main/HelloWorld.sol)



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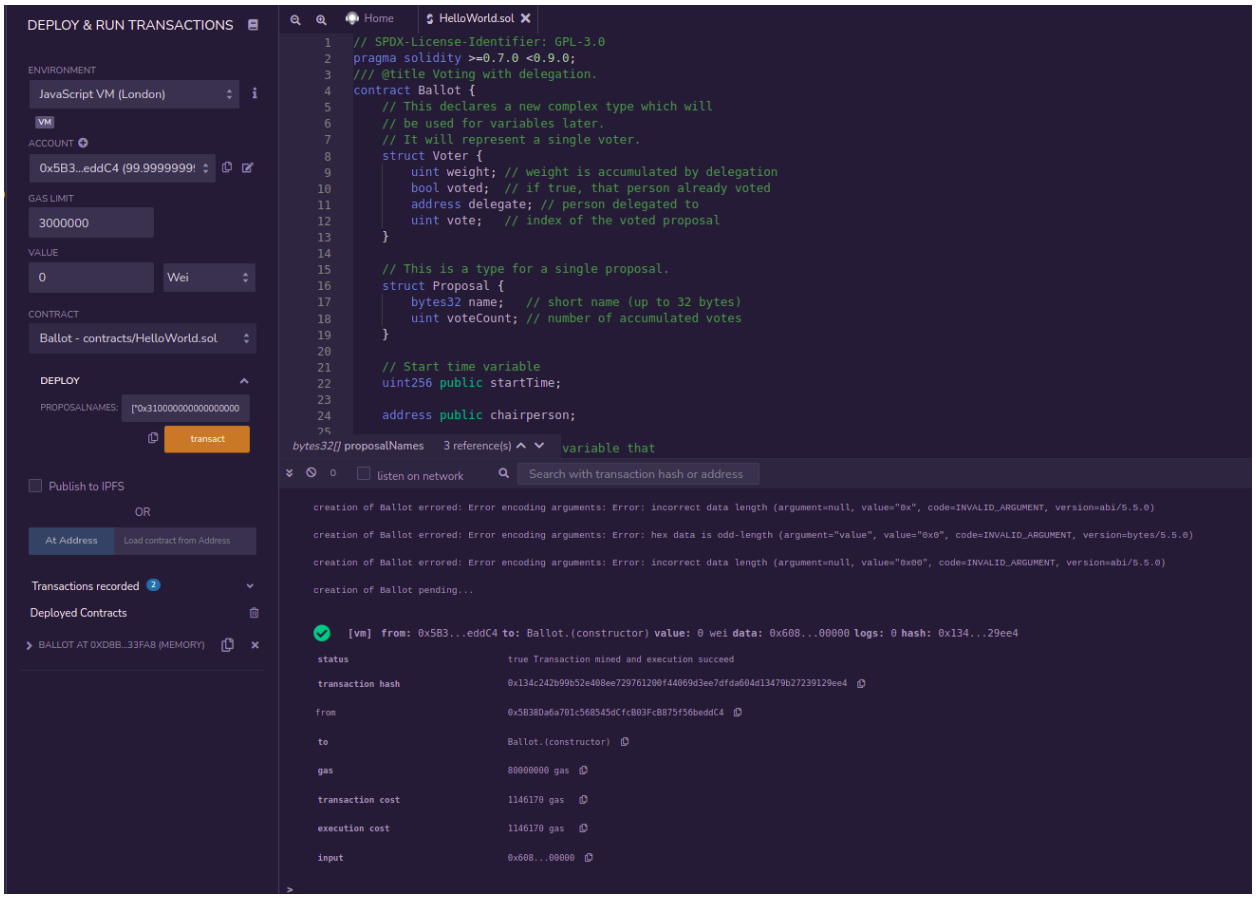
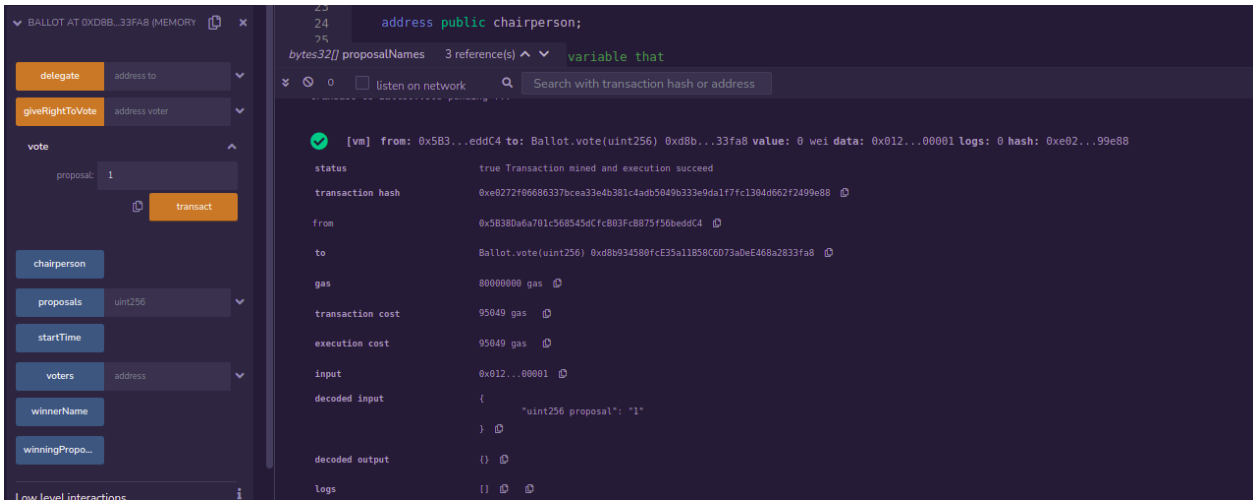
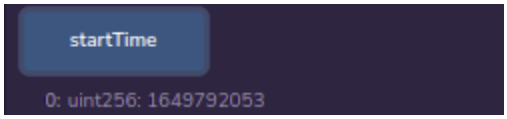
2. Github URL (https://github.com/shakeib98/zku-assignment/blob/main/BallotPaper.sol)







```
transact to Ballot.vote errored: VM error: revert.

revert
        The transaction has been reverted to the initial state.
Reason provided by the contract: "Voting time passed".
Debug the transaction to get more information.
```