All Domains › Algorithms › Strings › **Alternating Characters**

Badge Progress

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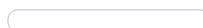
Points: 2300.44 Rank: 1301

Alternating Characters

by **amititkgp**

Problem	Submissions	Leaderboard	Discussions	Editorial	Topics

Shashank likes strings in which consecutive characters are different. For example, he likes *ABABA*, while he doesn't like *ABAA*. Given a string containing characters A and B only, he wants to change it into a string he likes. To do this, he is allowed to delete the characters in the string.

Your task is to find the minimum number of required deletions.

Input Format

The first line contains an integer T, i.e. the number of test cases.
The next T lines contain a string each.

Output Format

For each test case, print the minimum number of deletions required.

Constraints

$1 \leq T \leq 10$
$1 \leq length\ of\ string \leq 10^5$

Sample Input

```
5
AAAA
BBBBB
ABABABAB
BABABA
AAABBB
```

Sample Output

```
3
4
0
0
4
```

Explanation

AAAA $\implies$ *A*, *3* deletions
BBBBB $\implies$ *B*, *4* deletions
ABABABAB $\implies$ *ABABABAB*, *0* deletions
BABABA $\implies$ *BABABA*, *0* deletions
AAABBB $\implies$ *AB*, *4* deletions because to convert it to AB we need to delete 2 A's and 2 B's

Related Topics

String Basics

Submissions: 35499

Max Score: 20

Difficulty: Easy

More

Current Buffer (saved locally, editable)   Java 8

```java
1  import java.io.*;
2  import java.util.*;
3
4  public class Solution {
5
6      public static void main(String[] args) {
7          /* Enter your code here. Read input from STDIN. Print output to STDOUT. Your class should be named
   Solution. */
8      }
9  }
```

Line: 1 Col: 1

⬆ Upload Code as File   ☐ Test against custom input   Run Code   Submit Code

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