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Reflection

Working with my partner was a bit confusing at first, as we both had different approaches to tackling the tasks. Initially, our communication was not as clear as it could have been, leading to some misunderstandings about who was responsible for what. However, as we started discussing our ideas more openly and shared our thought processes, we began to find common ground and established a more effective collaboration.

As the lab progressed, we developed a rhythm that allowed us to work together more seamlessly. We divided the responsibilities based on our strengths: I focused on the logic and calculations, while my partner handled the algorithm.

In this lab, I learned the importance of breaking down a problem into smaller, manageable components. This approach was particularly useful when we worked on the cost calculation for the road trip. By isolating each part of the algorithm—input, processing, and output—we were able to identify potential errors early in the coding process. I also gained a deeper understanding of how to implement user input and format output effectively. This experience reinforced the necessity of clear and concise coding practices, especially when collaborating with others.

Following the first three rules of programming—keeping it simple, making it work, and making it right—was crucial throughout this lab. We prioritized simplicity by ensuring our code was straightforward and easy to understand. For example, rather than implementing complex calculations or data structures, we focused on basic arithmetic and straightforward input/output operations. This made our program not only functional but also easy to review and modify. After ensuring that our code worked correctly, we moved on to refining it. We tested various scenarios to ensure the calculations were accurate, which underscored the importance of validation in programming.