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Reflection

1. My experience working with John was great! We had known each other a bit beforehand, so that definitely made working together easier, but it was nice how easily we were able to find time to work on this project together in between classes. When I was the driver, he was good at noticing if I made any mistakes, and knowing how to fix them, which is very important when a person is guiding you. I believe we both worked very well together, and although there were some roadblocks along the way, whenever we weren’t sure of something, brainstorming together helped fix the problem eventually.
2. In this lab, I learned how to use coding not just to print simple phrases, but how to practice using input and calculations as well. I feel like now, as long as I understand how to solve the problem itself, I could code solutions for many different things. One of the most important things I learned though, was that planning and design goes a long way. Drafting a flowchart together and creating test cases in Excel made the process much more understandable later on and helped us to notice issues before it came to the actual coding. I’d also never used Excel before this or done any calculations in the program, so that was very interesting for me.
3. Before we actually started any of the coding, John and I came up with an algorithm, a flow chart, and test cases in excel, ensuring that we had thought about design a good bit and caught many potential errors before we got to the coding process itself. That way, we would know that any additional errors were just a simple coding mistake, and not an overarching error that would affect the entire program. After that, we made sure to follow the rules that would keep our code human readable, aside from just executable on a computer. We left line spaces in between sections of code with comments labelling each part and kept spaces between any operations used. Finally, we tested running our code multiple times, both with our test cases from excel, and using other numbers, ensuring that we would get the expected result every time. This way we were able to notice a few smaller errors before finalizing the code and were able to make sure that it would run correctly in the future.