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Reflection

For professor

In tackling a programming task related to population increase or decrease, I encountered several challenges that tested both my coding skills and problem-solving approach. One of the main difficulties was ensuring the accuracy of the mathematical formulas used to calculate population growth or decline, especially when dealing with real-world factors like birth rates, death rates, and migration. Another challenge I had was figuring out what would work in the program to create the correct output

I followed the first three rules of programming. I kept the code as simple as possible by breaking down the population calculations into smaller functions that could be reused throughout the program. I made sure that there was no redundant code. Lastly, I focused first on making the program functional before refining its performance and structure. For instance, I prioritized getting accurate population calculations before working on conditional statements

I was able to overcome these challenges through collaboration with my lab partner. Together, we identified and fixed issues like incorrect variable assignments or faulty logic in control structures. This process of peer review and helping each other was very useful. We both learned a lot from each other

The key takeaway from this experience is the importance of simplicity and clarity in coding. Complex problems, like population modeling, are more manageable when broken down into smaller, well-defined parts. I also learned that collaboration and feedback are important in catching mistakes.

Yes, I believe I learned what I was supposed to for this lab. The exercise also strengthened my ability to apply programming principles to real-world problems. Working with a partner was a positive experience. It allowed for the exchange of ideas and having two people working on one lab helps the workload.