





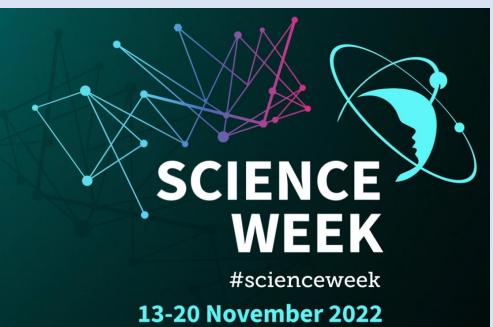


Computational Thinking Tasks for Science Week 2022

PACT team Departmen Maynooth

Department of Computer Science Maynooth University, Ireland

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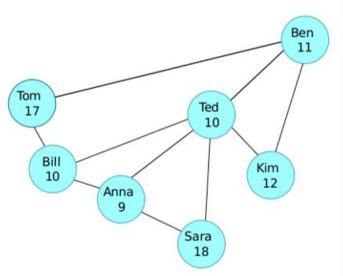


Supported by Science Foundation Ireland

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This diagram shows who is friends with whom in a book-sharing club. Their names and ages are also shown.

The club has some rules to make sure that every club member gets to read each book. When you receive a book you read it (if you haven't already done so) and then pass it to your youngest friend who has not yet read it. If, however, all your friends have read the book then you should give it back to the friend who gave it to you.



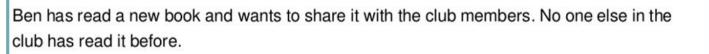
Ben has read a new book and wants to share it with the club members. No one else in the club has read it before.

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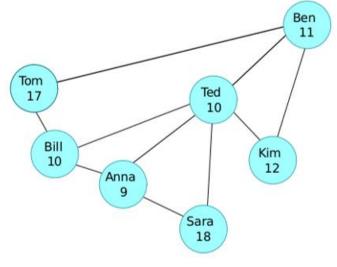


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QUESTION: Who will read the book last?





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Book sharing club

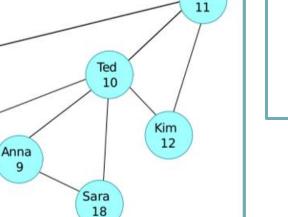
Tom

17

Bill

10

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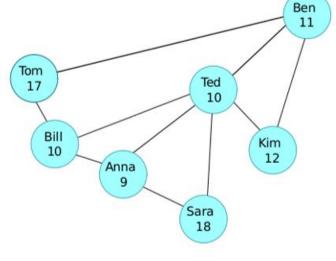
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Anna

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QUESTION: Who will read the book last?

Ben

11

Kim

12

Ted

10

Sara

18

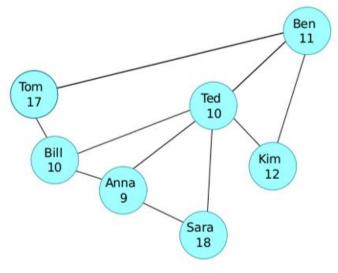
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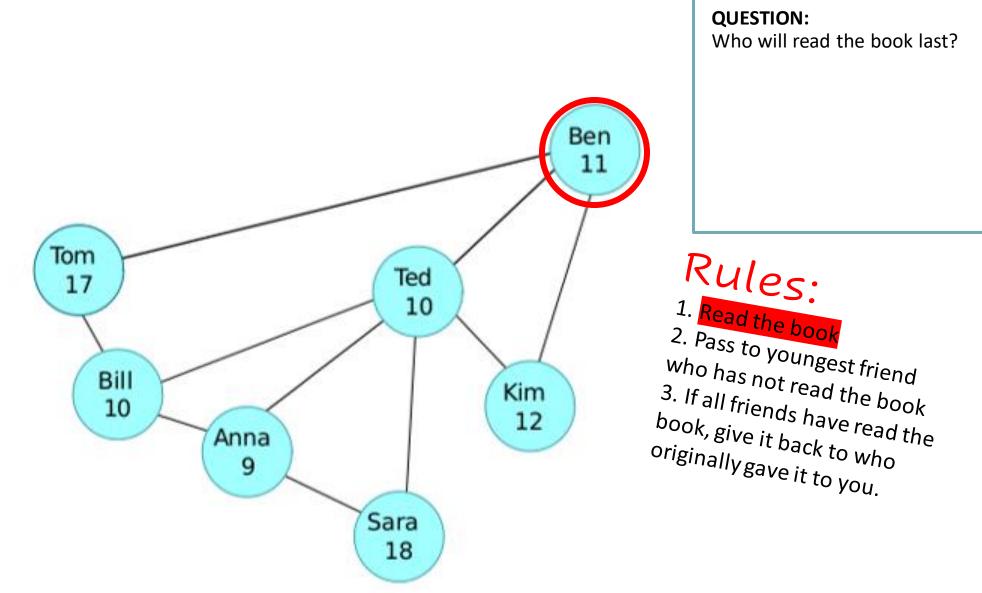
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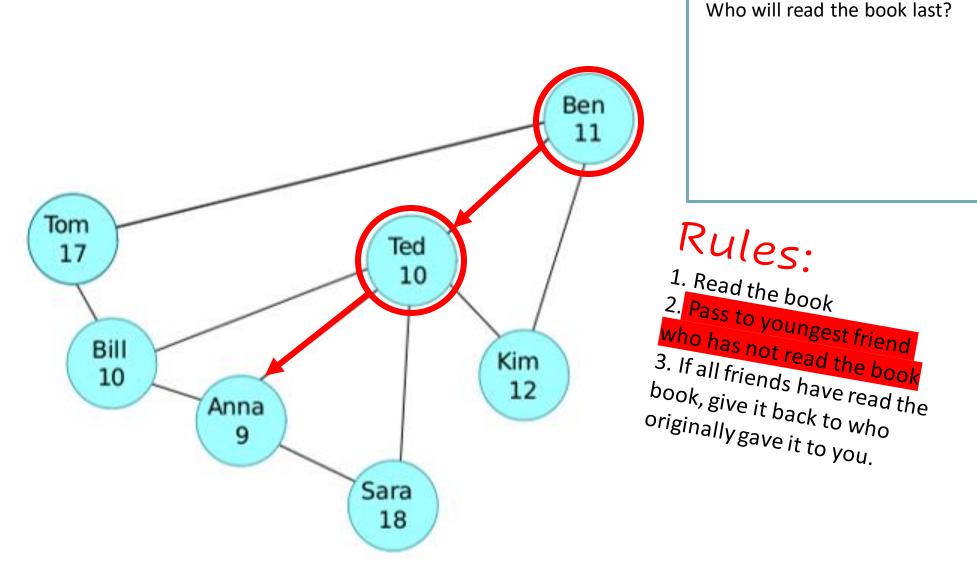
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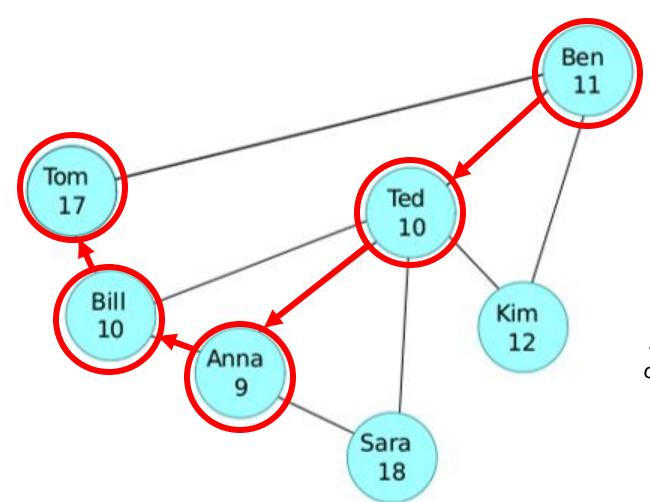
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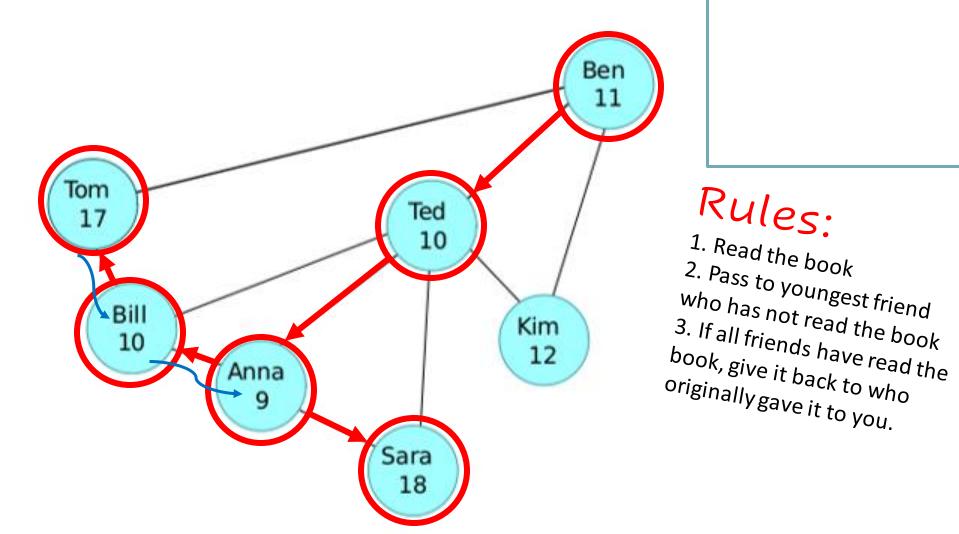
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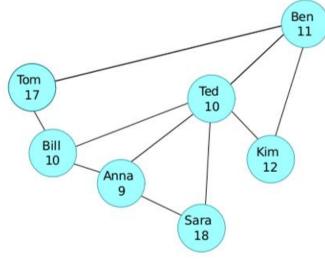
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A. Tom

B. Sara

C. Bill D. Kim

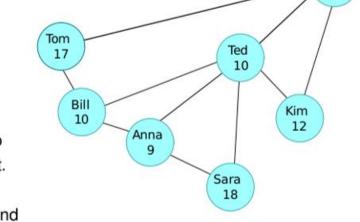
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A. Tom B. Sara C. Bill D. Kim Computational thinking topic: algorithms. This task is an example of following an



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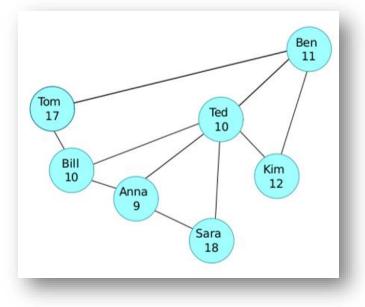
Ben

11

algorithm.

Some computer science terms explained

- Computer scientists work with data, which is often interconnected like the social network of the book sharing club in this task.
- We can think about a social network as a set of elements (people) and connections (friendships).
- Often systems from the real world can be thought of as a network. For example, a road grid plan as a set of **elements** (cities) and **connections** (roads).



- To represent sets of connections in these networks, computer scientists sometimes use **graphs** as **data structures.**
- <u>Algorithms</u> can be used for example to analyse and evaluate different properties of these graphs.





Questions / comments / discussion

See our website for more computational thinking tasks: https://pact.cs.nuim.ie Email: pact@mu.ie

> To sign up for the Bebras Challenge (taking place 7-25th November 2022): https://bebras.techweek.ie

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