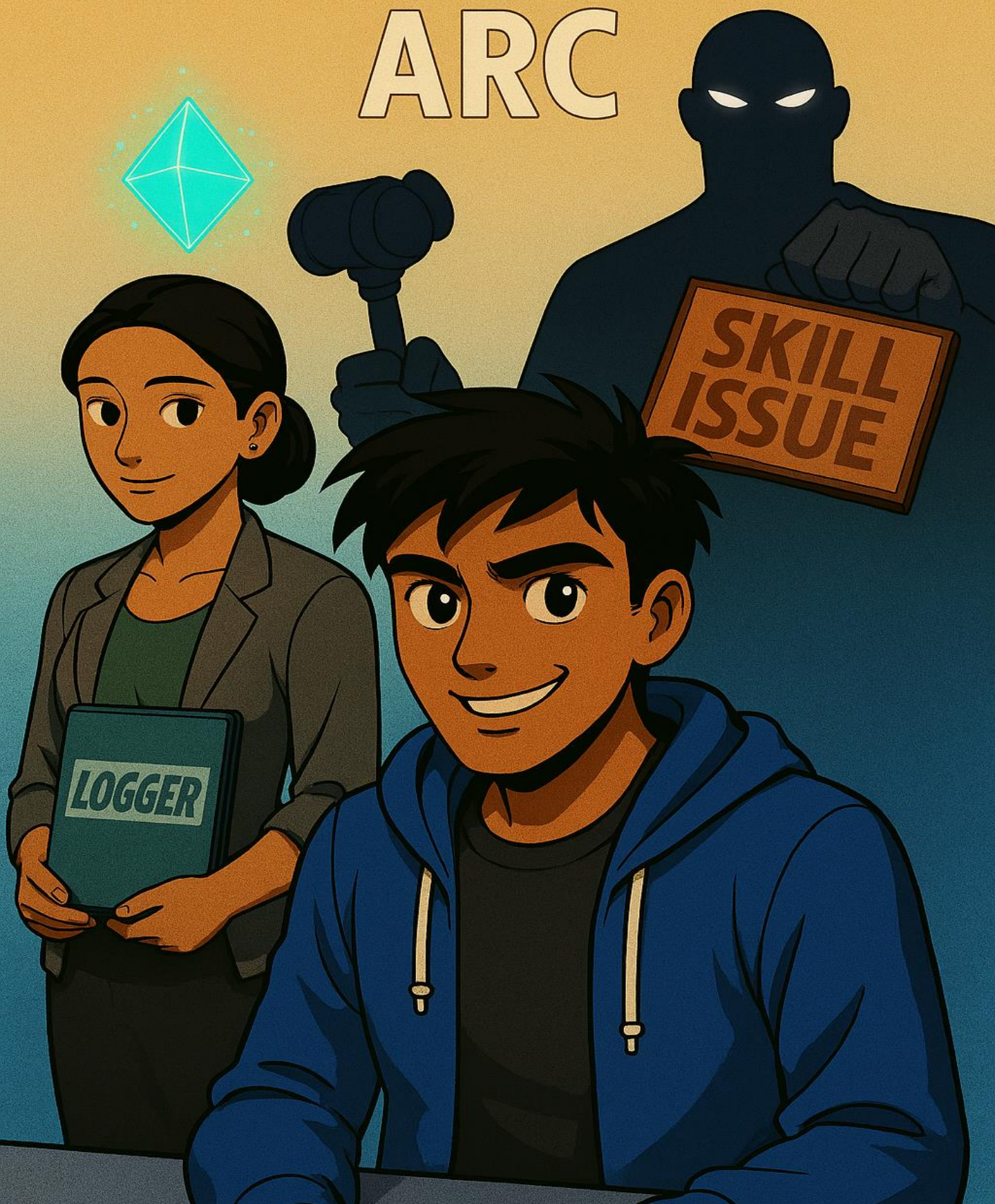


SKILL DESERT ARC



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Week 3 of first year.

Another
lab. Another
10/10.



10



Here's a cleaner
implementation
and a test scaffold.



10

Perfect.
Paste and
go.

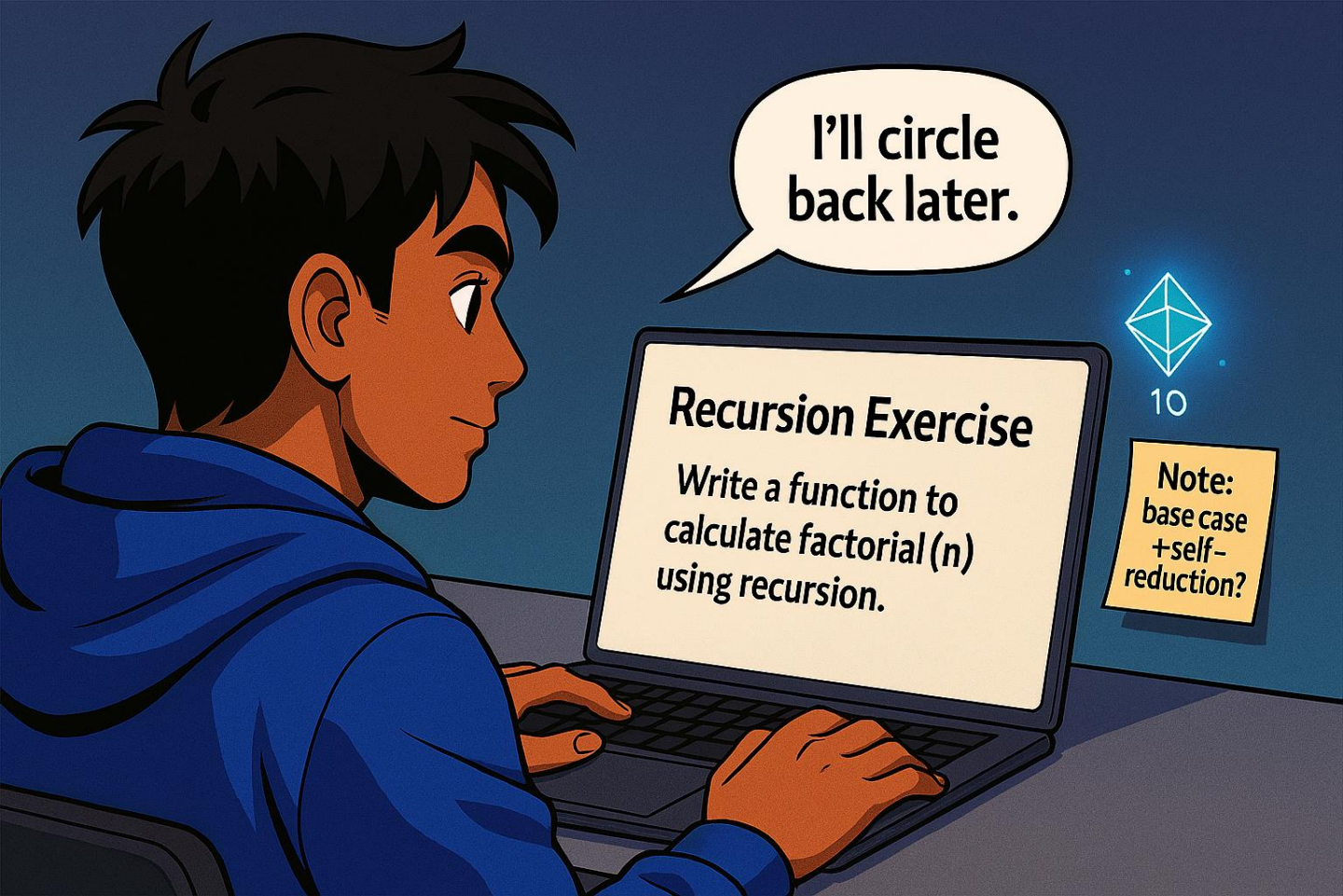
Clack
clack

**Marks climb.
Confidence climbs faster.**

Grade Sheet

Lab	Mark
1	10
2	9.5
3	10
4	9.5
5	10

**Why struggle
when the model
already knows?**



Belief sets.

I've got
this.

Third year, first week.

**NO
EXTERNAL
AI TOOLS**

No...
external..
AI?



Easy... right?

Implement factorial with recursion;
then debug intermittent memory
leak in C module.

Easy... right?

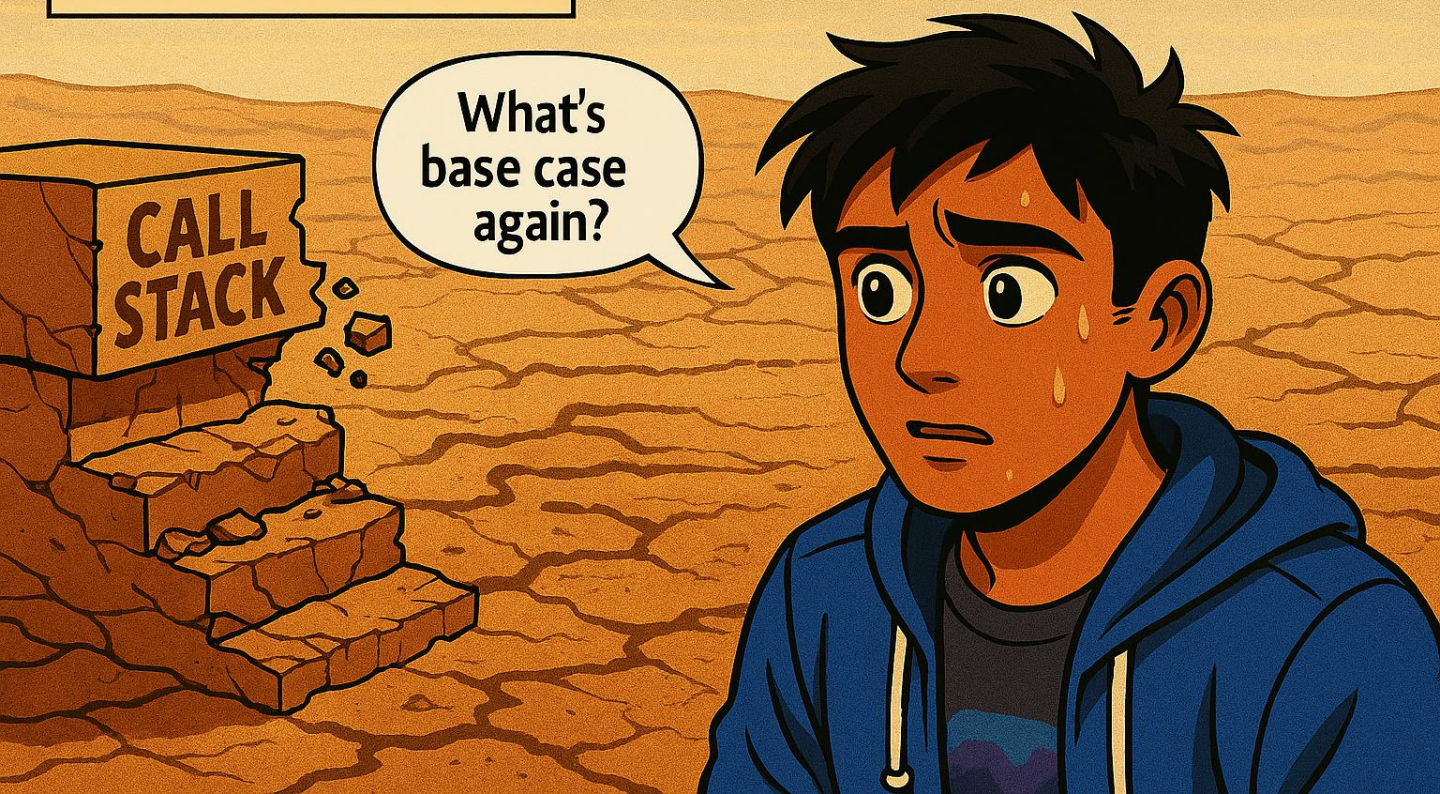
*Blinks...
blinks...*

When the tailwind stops,
momentum isn't mastery.

SKILL DESERT

What's
base case
again?

CALL
STACK



Infinite calls

```
factorial<n>  
factorial<n>  
factorial<n>  
factorial<n>  
factorial<n>  
factorial<n>  
factorial<n>
```

**BEEP—STACK LIMIT
REACHED**

Memory leak

Leak suspected
near `buffer_copy()`

80MiB
60MiB
50MiB

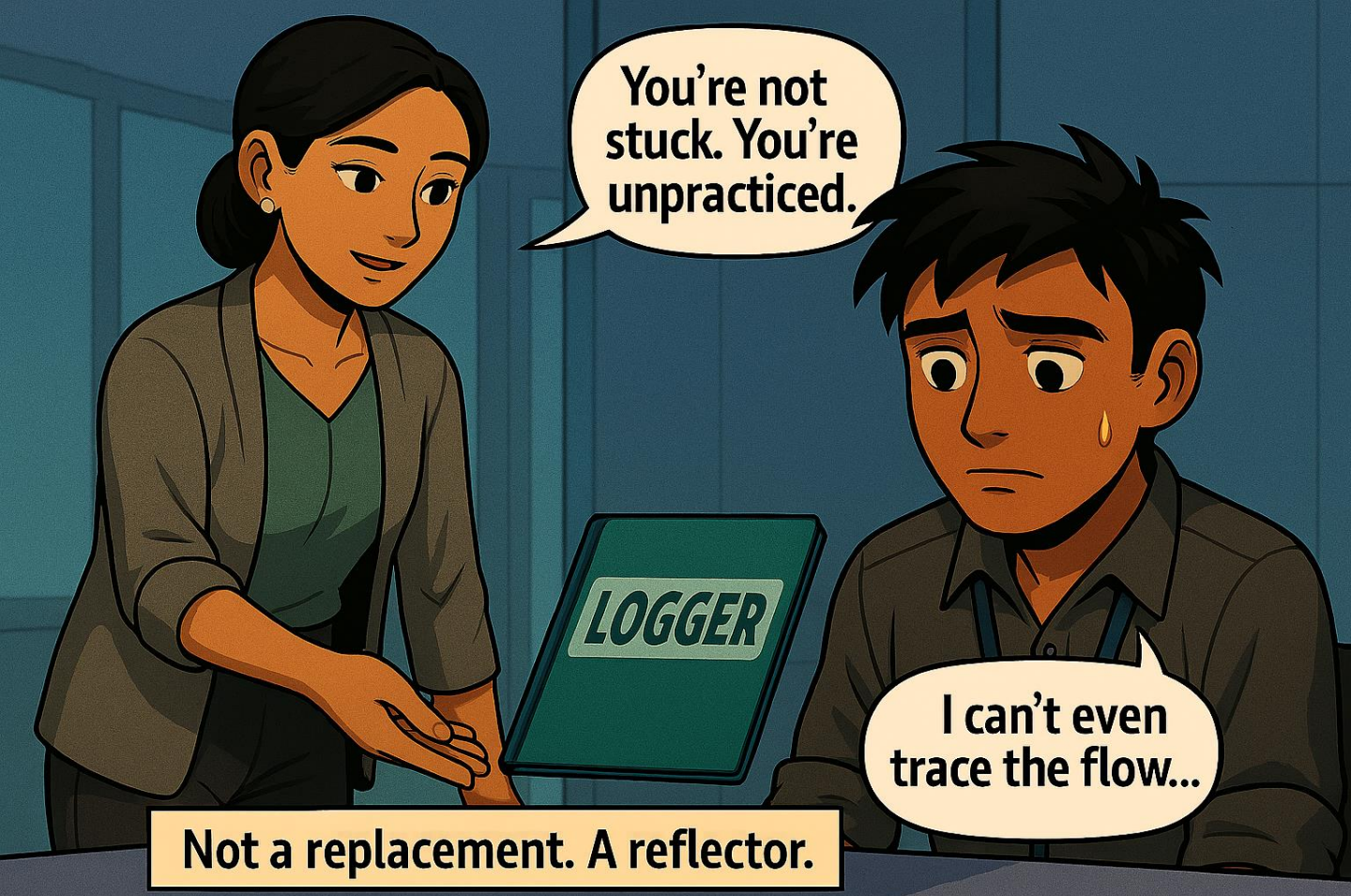
I can't even
trace the flow..

High marks.
Low intuition.

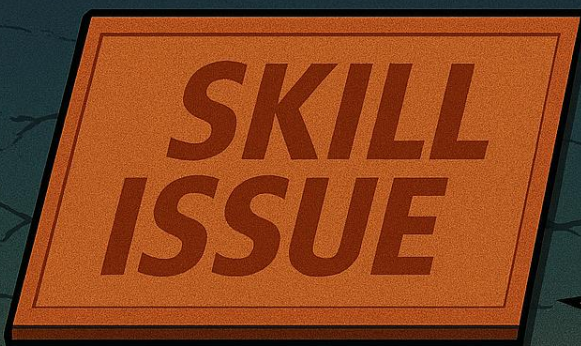
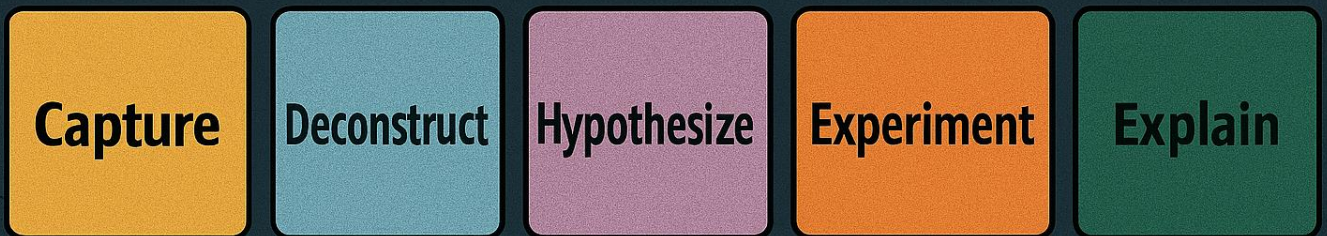
**SKILL
ISSUE**

**SKILL
ISSUE**

Was I just...
copy-pasting
competence?



LOGGER

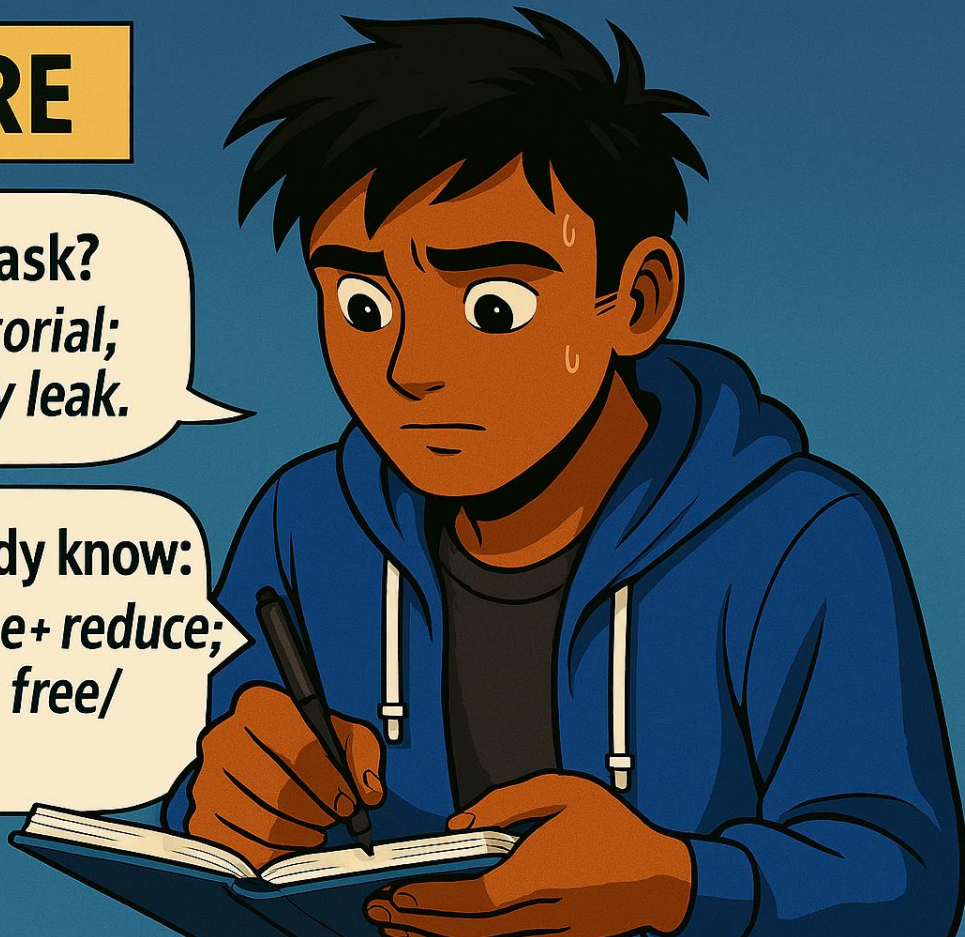


Write what you think before you test.
Make thinking visible.

CAPTURE

What's the task?
*Recursive factorial;
debug memory leak.*

What do I already know:
*Recursion = base+ reduce;
leaks = missing free/
unpaired alloc.*



CTRL+**Save** the Planet  . Avoid **Printing**



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All resources and materials are available at <http://alishakiba.github.io/beyond-declaration>.