Post-Mortem
Assignment 06
November 19, 2018

We normally publish the post-mortem for an assignment after it has been marked and released. Here is a list of common mistakes provided by the graders for assignment 6.

General

- Many students are still making extremely poor choices for the names of their parameters and helper functions. In particular, ambiguous function names such as accumulate, recurse, ct, newlist, change, helper, and function are some of the many poor function names that markers encountered.
- Many students are still missing parameter references in their purpose statements. Purpose statements should meaningfully use each parameter name, and the parameter names should be written exactly as they appear in the function header.
- All design recipe components, except for tests, are required for helper functions. Many students are still not including these design recipe components for their helper functions.
- Many students did not complete the assignment.

Question 1

- In part (a), some students had a solution that produced the last column of the consumed Grid when the consumed natural number is exactly one more than the number of columns in the Grid, indexed from zero. However, empty should have been produced instead.
- In parts (a) and (b), many students did not specify that the consumed or produced list must only contain the symbols ‘B and ‘=.
- In part (b), many students had a solution where they removed all the consecutive ‘B’s at the beginning of the consumed list in their recursive calls. However, such a solution would use generative recursion. It is true that this gets closer to the base case of a list, but removing more than one element does not get one step closer to the base case. (No mark deducted)
- In part (c), many students simply produced empty if the consumed Grid was empty. However, the assignment states that puzzle-labels always produces a list of length 2, but empty is not a list of length 2.

Question 2

- In part (d), some students only consider the subtree of the top node instead of checking every node to determine balance.
Question 3

- In part (b), some students pass the entire `Perk-list` into their helper function instead of a list of perks for the specific politician, which is not necessary.

- In part (b), some students did not use the type name provided in question. For example, using `AST` when it should be `ActionSearchTree`.