

Reflection

I think first and foremost, I need to do far better prep work. I think, by leaps and bounds, this is my most significant weakness. I need to review the material ahead of time way more thoroughly than I have been. If I had read and taken the time to thoroughly understand the whole document on MCSS, I would have been able to answer three questions in the last contest in a very short amount of time.

I also have not come prepared with cheat sheets of any kind. I should take the time to compile a list of useful functions to save time, avoid bugs, and conserve cognitive resources. I have just been lazy about it.

Aside from those two things, I think I perform relatively well. I take the time (but not too long) to understand the problem and work out an approach on paper before I start coding. I also try to test my code adequately before submitting in order to avoid costly erroneous submissions. I think I do a good job at checking back in with the scoreboard to see which question(s) appear to be the easiest and should be solved first. Maybe I spend a little too much time looking at the scoreboard just to see how people are doing and how I compare; I could benefit from not checking it so often just to see how classmates are placing.

Better preparation and well documented cheat sheets are what can make significant performance improvements for me.