Disclaimer:
These are practice problems for the upcoming final exam. You will be given a sheet of notes for the exam. Also, go over your homework assignments. Warning: This does not necessarily reflect the length, difficulty, or coverage of the actual exam.

Problem 1 Assume you have a list of $n$ elements where every number is within $k$ positions of its correct location, for some constant $k$.

(a) Give an algorithm that sorts this list with as few comparisons as possible (as a function of $n$ and $k$). Just get the high order term right. How many comparisons does your algorithm use?

(b) Show that your algorithm is optimal using a decision tree argument.

Problem 2 Assume that you developed an algorithm to find the (index of the) $n/3$ smallest element of a list of $n$ elements in $2n$ comparisons.

(a) Using the algorithm (as a black box), give an algorithm, efficient in the worst case, to find the $k$th smallest element of a list.

(b) Write down a recurrence for (a bound on) the number of comparisons it executes in the worst case.

(c) Solve the recurrence (using constructive induction). Find the high order term exactly (but you do not need any low order terms).

(d) Using the (black box) algorithm for finding the $n/3$ smallest element and using the ideas and results of Parts (a), (b), and (c), give an efficient algorithm to find (the index of) two elements, the $k_1th$ smallest and the $k_2$ smallest (for inputs $k_1$ and $k_2$). The algorithm description can be very high level and brief.

(e) How many comparisons does it use? Find the high order term exactly (but you do not need any low order terms). Give a brief justification.

Problem 3 A graph is tripartite if the vertices can be partitioned into three sets so that there are no edges internal to any set. The complete tripartite graph, $K(a,b,c)$, has three sets of vertices with sizes $a$, $b$, and $c$ and all possible edges between each pair of sets of vertices. $K(3,2,3)$ is pictured below. A Hamiltonian cycle in a graph is a cycle that traverses every vertex exactly once.

(a) For which values of $n$ does $K(1,1,n)$ have a Hamiltonian cycle. Justify your answer.

(b) For which values of $n$ does $K(1,n,n)$ have a Hamiltonian cycle. Justify your answer.

(c) For which values of $n$ does $K(n,n,n)$ have a Hamiltonian cycle. Justify your answer.
**Problem 4** Let $G = (V, E)$ be an undirected graph. A *triangle* is a set of three vertices such that each pair has an edge.

(a) Give an efficient algorithm to find all of the triangles in a graph.

(b) How fast is your algorithm?

**Problem 5** Show that you can convert a formula in Conjuctive Normal Form (CNF) where every clause has *at most three* literals, into a new formula where every clause has *exactly* three literals, so that the new formula is satisfiable if and only if the original formula is satisfiable. No variable may occur twice in the same clause.

**Problem 6** A *vertex cover* in a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a subset of vertices such that every edge is incident on at least one vertex of the subset. The *Weighted Vertex Cover Problem* (WVCP) is, given a graph $G = (V, E)$ with integer weights on the vertices, find a vertex cover whose sum of weights is as small as possible. You can assume that the weights are between 1 and $n$ (inclusive).

(a) WVCP is an optimization problem. Define a decision version of WVCP.

(b) Show that the decision version is in $\textbf{NP}$. Make sure to state the certificate and give the pseudo code.

(c) Show that if you could solve the optimization version in polynomial time that you could also solve the decision version in polynomial time.

(d) Show that if you could solve the decision version in polynomial time that you could also solve the optimization version in polynomial time. HINT: First find the weight of an optimal weighted vertex cover.