HackerRank

Stacks: Balanced Brackets

A bracket is considered to be any one of the following characters: (,), {,}, [, or].

Two brackets are considered to be a *matched pair* if the an opening bracket (i.e., (, [, or {) occurs to the left of a closing bracket (i.e.,),], or }) of the exact same type. There are three types of matched pairs of brackets: [], {}, and ().

A matching pair of brackets is *not balanced* if the set of brackets it encloses are not matched. For example, {[(])} is not balanced because the contents in between { and } are not balanced. The pair of square brackets encloses a single, unbalanced opening bracket, (, and the pair of parentheses encloses a single, unbalanced closing square bracket,].

Some examples of balanced brackets are $[]\{\}(), [(\{\})]\{\}()\}$ and $(\{(\}, \{\}, []\})[]$.

By this logic, we say a sequence of brackets is considered to be *balanced* if the following conditions are met:

- It contains no unmatched brackets.
- The subset of brackets enclosed within the confines of a matched pair of brackets is also a matched pair of brackets.

Given n strings of brackets, determine whether each sequence of brackets is balanced. If a string is balanced, print $vec{yes}$ on a new line; otherwise, print $vec{NO}$ on a new line.

Function Description

Complete the isBalanced function in the editor below.

isBalanced has the following parameter(s):

- string expression: a string of brackets

Returns

- string: either YES or NO

Input Format

The first line contains a single integer, n, the number of strings.

Each line i of the n subsequent lines consists of a single string, s, denoting a sequence of brackets.

Constraints

- $1 \le n \le 10^3$
- $1 \leq length(s) \leq 10^3$, where length(s) is the length of the sequence.
- Each character in the sequence will be a bracket (i.e., {, }, (,), [, and]).

Sample Input

```
STDIN     Function
----
3          t = 3
{[()]}         first expression
{[(])}         second expression
{{[[())]}}         third expression
```

Sample Output

```
YES
NO
YES
```

Explanation

- 1. The string {[()]} meets both criteria for being a balanced string.
- 2. The string {[(])} is not balanced, because the brackets enclosed by the matched pairs [(] and (]) are not balanced.
- 3. The string $\{\{[[(())]]\}\}\$ meets both criteria for being a balanced string.