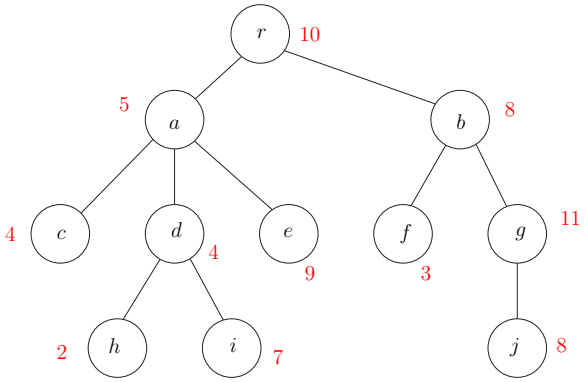
1. Given a graph $G = (V, E)$, a *vertex cover* of G is a subset $S \subseteq V$ of vertices such that for each edge $e = (u, v)$ in G, u or v is in S. That is, the vertices in S *cover* all the edges. Given a tree $T = (V, E)$ and a non-negative weight $w(v)$ for each vertex $v \in V$, give an algorithm that computes the minimum weight vertex cover of T; the weight of a cover S is the sum of the weights of the vertices in S. In the tree below, $\{a, d, b, j\}$ is a vertex cover while $\{r, a, f, g\}$ is not a vertex cover.



Run your iterative algorithm on the tree and compute the value of the minimum vertex cover in the tree above.

2. A ***basic arithmetic expression*** is composed of characters from the set $\{1, +, \times\}$ and parentheses. Almost every integer can be represented by more than one basic arithmetic expression. For example, all of the following basic arithmetic expression represent the integer 14:

$$1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1$$
$$((1+1)\times(1+1+1+1+1))+((1+1)\times(1+1))$$
$$(1+1)\times(1+1+1+1+1+1+1)$$
$$(1+1)\times(((1+1+1)\times(1+1))+1)$$

Describe and analyze an algorithm to compute, given an integer n as input, the minimum number of 1's in a basic arithmetic expression whose value is equal to n. The number of parentheses doesn't matter, just the number of 1's. For example, when $n = 14$, your algorithm should return 8, for the final expression above. The running time of your algorithm should be bounded by a small polynomial function of n.

3. **To think about later:** Suppose you are given a sequence of integers separated by $+$ and $-$ signs; for example:

$$1+3-2-5+1-6+7$$

You can change the value of this expression by adding parentheses in different places. For example:

$$1+3-2-5+1-6+7=-1$$
$$(1+3-(2-5))+(1-6)+7=9$$
$$(1+(3-2))-(5+1)-(6+7)=-17$$

Describe and analyze an algorithm to compute, given a list of integers separated by $+$ and $-$ signs, the maximum possible value the expression can take by adding parentheses. Parentheses must be used only to group additions and subtractions; in particular, do not use them to create implicit multiplication as in $1 + 3(-2)(-5) + 1 - 6 + 7 = 33$.