SIT102 – Introduction to Programming

Answers for 4.3C Messy Code

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Question 1: This code runs! So why bother adjusting the format of the code? Explain why coding conventions are important.

> Coding conventions are important because all programmers are meant to adhere to them. When they do, the code is written in a clean and tidy format that everybody knows how to read.

Question 2: List out all convention practices you have made in the program. Elaborate them respectively.

> I have used the camel_case format to identify variables and functions.
> There is one statement per line as indicated by the semicolons at the end of it.
> Most lines of code have a comment to explain what it the program is doing.
> For each set of brackets, the code within it is indented to show that it is part of that block of code.

Question 3: Why is indentation important in code? Explain how code indentation helps improve understanding of control flow and sequencing.

> Indentation is important for recognising blocks of code organising the instructions that they contain. The way that code is indented in a program is a way of showing how the instructions are organised throughout the code.

Question 4: Why are meaningful names of variables, functions, and procedures important? What is a likely implication if a variable name does not accurately reflect what it stores? How would this affect maintenance of a large software code base?

> It is important to name variables, functions and procedures appropriately so that it is easy to know what each one's role is in the program and so that other programmers know what it is. If these are not named appropriately, then when running through the code, it can be really confusing to determine what the variable, function or procedure is doing or what it is.