```java
package prg2;

import java.util.Scanner;
public class PasswordProtection
{
    public static void main( String [] args )
    {
      Scanner scan = new Scanner( System.in );

      String message = "correct";
      System.out.println( "Please enter a password" );
      String password = scan.nextLine();

      //Check for length
      if (password.length() < 8 )
          message = "Error--too short";

      //Check for presence of special characters
      else if (password.indexOf("!") < 0   &&   password.indexOf("?") < 0    &&
password.indexOf("@") < 0)
          message = "Error--does not contain an !,@,or ?";

      //Check for illegal characters
      else if (password.indexOf("?") == 0   ||   password.indexOf("!") == 0)
          message = "Error--begins with an illegal character";

      //Check for spaces
      else if (password.indexOf(" ") > 0)
          message = "Error--contains a space";

      //Check for same 3 letters
      else if (password.charAt(0) == password.charAt(1)   &&   password.charAt(1) ==
password.charAt(2))
          message = "Error--first three letters are the same";

      //Check for letters that end with the same letter
      else if (password.charAt(password.length() - 1) ==
password.charAt(password.length()- 2)   &&   password.charAt(password.length()- 2) ==
password.charAt(password.length()- 3))
          message = "Error--the last three letters are the same";

      else
          message = "Correct!";

      System.out.println ( message );

    }//main

}//class
```