

1. A computer algorithm is

- ☒ A precise specification of all the steps needed to compute a solution to a problem
- ☐ A protocol for transmitting data over a network
- ☐ A program written in a computer language such as C++, Python, or Perl
- ☐ A description of the hardware and software capabilities of a computer

2. You can make a program more efficient by

- ☒ Re-designing the algorithm to require fewer steps
- ☐ Recompiling it on a different computer
- ☐ Running it on the Amazon cloud
- ☐ Replacing your hard drives with faster solid state drives

3. DNA sequences can be represented efficiently using

- ☒ Two bits for each of the 4 possible bases
- ☐ The SAM alignment format
- ☐ The compressed BAM file format
- ☐ One byte for each of the 4 possible bases

4. A programming language is

- ☒ A formal language used to instruct computers what to do
- ☐ A web-based environment for building computer programs
- ☐ Anything written in Python
- ☐ A method for translating between languages such as English and French

5. Software engineering involves

- ☐ Documenting computer code so that others can understand it
- ☐ Updating code so that it remains compatible with other software systems.
- ☐ Testing programs on a wide range of examples to see if they perform as expected
- ☒ All of these options

6. Bowtie, TopHat, and Cufflinks are

- ☒ Programs for analysis of RNA-seq (transcriptome) data sets
- ☐ A web-based system for browsing genome data
- ☐ Elements of men's formal evening wear
- ☐ Programs for determining the function of a gene

7. Sequence alignment refers to

- ☒ Lining up two DNA sequences so that positions with the same base match one another
- ☐ Making sure that all the DNA sequences in a file use the same format
- ☐ Shuffling the positions in a sequence to randomize them
- ☐ Determining the amino acid sequence produced by translating a DNA sequence

8. A software pipeline for RNA sequence (RNA-seq) analysis will

- ☒ Process large raw sequence files into a summary table showing which genes were present
- ☐ Create a database in which one can efficiently store and retrieve results
- ☐ Automatically update all software to the latest version
- ☐ Compare cases to controls and determine which genes were responsible for any differences in phenotype

9. Which of the following is not a computer operating system?

- ☐ Mac OS X
- ☐ Microsoft Windows
- ☐ RedHat Linux
- ☒ Google Drive

10. A data set large enough to overwhelm the main memory of a computer would

- ☐ Contain more than 1000 genomes' worth of data
- ☐ Use uncompressed files rather than compressed ones
- ☒ Be larger than the available RAM
- ☐ Be at least 100 gigabytes in size