The main thing That I noticed with this lab is that I was not learning in a way that I would be learning if I was new to coding. By this I mean that I was skimming over concepts that I already knew because they existed in other languages. Personally, I feel there are pros and cons to this. It is good because this means I can get to work with the new programming language faster. The downsides though are that I might be overlooking something that is actually new but I just think it is something that I already know. In a way to me this makes it feel like I am just learning enough to get by and not fully absorb the language. In a way this makes sense though because this is not a class solely focused on one language so we are not putting in the time required to fully grasp the basics of each new language we come across. In a way this kind of reminds me of something that a professor in one of my other classes said. He said that college is not a vocational school and that we for the most part are not learning skills that can directly land us a job. Instead, we are learning how to learn so that we can adapt to what the job needs. He said that this is especially important the field of computers because technology moves so fast. New technologies keep coming out and you need to know how to learn so that you can keep up with them. I understand and appreciate this point of view. It makes sense after all to prepare for an uncertain future. Things will change and we must be ready to adapt to those changes. I think that is what makes this exercise of learning a new language with intent so important. Another professor mentioned that learning new things is common place industry. She mentioned that she was often asked to learn new programming languages that the company would be using for their new project. She also mentioned that for the most part the logic carries over from language to language. She did admit that there are of course differences but that usually the first programming language you learn is the most important as that will help you with the future ones.

Overall, I would say that the biggest problem I had with this assignment was remembering the new syntax and such that each language has as it differs from the others. For example, it took me about 10 minutes to figure out how to print the way I wanted with Java Script. This had to do with the nature of the language. Java Script is meant for browsers and so does not print to the screen in ways that C++ would for example. Also, in a way this reminded me of the saying that what you think you know can be harmful to you.

The easiest part for me was the logic as I was trying to do things that I already knew how to do. By that I mean I know what bubble sort is and how to do it but I’ve just never done it in Ruby.