Here is a **professionally formatted, sentence-by-sentence breakdown** of your uploaded document **“Loops Notes”**, aligned with **CompTIA A+ 220-1102 (Core 2)** exam preparation. This document directly supports **Objective 4.8: Explain the basics of scripting**, with an emphasis on flow control using loops in **pseudocode**.

The content below is ideal for pasting into Microsoft Word. It uses compact spacing, clean formatting, and numbered topics for clarity.

**CompTIA A+ 1102 Study Notes: Loops in Scripting (Objective 4.8)**

**1. Concept Overview:**

Loops are a type of **flow control structure** used in scripting to repeat a block of code until a certain condition is met. Instead of duplicating code manually, loops allow efficient execution by **automating repetition**, saving time and improving code clarity.

**2. Core Purpose of Loops in Scripting**

**2.1** Loops control the **order and repetition** of code execution.

**2.2** Instead of writing the same command multiple times (e.g., copying code 10 times), a loop can perform the task repeatedly based on logic.

**2.3** Loops are essential for automating tasks, processing inputs, and navigating data structures like files or lists.

**3. Types of Loops in Pseudocode (3 Total)**

Loops in scripting are generally categorized into **three types**, each with a specific purpose:

**4. For Loops – Known Repetition**

**4.1** A **For loop** is used when the number of repetitions is **known in advance**.

**4.2** Example: Repeating a task exactly **10 times**.

**4.3** Pseudocode Example:

For i = 1 to 10

OUTPUT(i)

Endfor

**4.4** Behavior:

* Initializes i at 1.
* Executes the loop body (prints i).
* Increments i by 1 each cycle.
* Stops once i reaches 10.

**4.5** Output Example:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

**4.6** Use Case:

Iterating a fixed number of steps, such as initializing 10 users or repeating tests a set number of times.

**5. While Loops – Unknown Repetition, Condition Checked First**

**5.1** A **While loop** is used when the number of repetitions is **not known**, but the loop should continue **as long as a condition is true**.

**5.2** Condition is checked **at the beginning** of the loop.

**5.3** Pseudocode Example:

i = 0

While i < 10

OUTPUT(i)

i = i + 1

Endwhile

**5.4** Behavior:

* Starts with i = 0.
* Runs the loop while i < 10.
* Increments i by 1 after each output.
* Stops when i becomes 10.

**5.5** Output Example:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

**5.6** Use Case:

Situations where a process should continue **until a specific condition is met**, but the number of loops isn’t known ahead of time (e.g., retrying login until successful).

**6. Do Loops – Unknown Repetition, Condition Checked After**

**6.1** A **Do loop** is also used for unknown repetition, but the key difference is that the condition is tested **after the loop body**, so the code runs **at least once**.

**6.2** Pseudocode Example:

Do

OUTPUT(i)

i = i + 1

Until i > 10

**6.3** Behavior:

* Executes loop body at least once, regardless of condition.
* Increments i, then checks if i > 10.
* If not, repeats.

**6.4** Example Scenario 1 – Starting with i = 50:

* OUTPUT(50), i becomes 51
* 51 > 10 → Loop ends

**Output:** 50 (runs once)

**6.5** Example Scenario 2 – Starting with i = 0:

* OUTPUT from 0 to 10
* Stops when i becomes 11

**Output:** 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

**6.6** Use Case:

Ensuring **at least one execution**, such as reading a file line, displaying an initial prompt, or logging one attempt before exiting.

**7. Real-World Use Case: Do Loop for File Processing**

**7.1** In practical scripting, Do loops are often used to **read through a file line-by-line**.

**7.2** Pseudocode:

Do

OUTPUT current\_line

Until end\_of\_file

**7.3** Benefit:

This ensures every line is processed **until the end of the file**, even if the file is empty or contains only one line.

**8. When to Use Each Type**

| **Loop Type** | **Best Used When…** | **Condition Check** | **Executes At Least Once?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| For | You know the exact number of repetitions | Start of loop | Not guaranteed |
| While | You need to repeat until a condition changes | Start of loop | Not guaranteed |
| Do | You must run the loop at least once | End of loop | ✅ Yes |

**9. Summary: Key Takeaways for the Exam**

* **For loops** are for **fixed repetitions**.
* **While loops** are for **condition-based repetition** (condition checked first).
* **Do loops** are for **condition-based repetition**, but always **execute at least once**.
* All loops can include counters (i = i + 1) and output functions (OUTPUT(i)).
* Pseudocode is used on the exam to explain logic without requiring actual programming language syntax.

**10. Exam Inclusion Notification**

✅ **Included in CompTIA A+ 220-1102 – Objective 4.8**

**Justification:**

The exam may include **simple script logic** where you’re expected to **identify flow control behaviors** like loops. You won’t be required to write full scripts, but you should recognize:

* The **type of loop** used
* Where the **condition is tested**
* Whether the loop runs **once or multiple times**

This content prepares you for interpreting and analyzing script behavior in basic automation scenarios.