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# CMSC 115 Reading Guide

Please enter your responses in red.

## Chapter 1

## Section 1.7 Operators Re-read

1. What is the difference between the division operator (/) and the quotient operator (//)? The division operator will give a float value back if the number has a remained, the quotient operator will return an integer value.

Regarding Section 1.7.5: I generally recommend not using the shortcut methods, as the extra difficulty in reading them isn’t worth the tiny savings of not having to type as much. But you should be familiar with them in case you see them used in someone else’s code.

## Section 1.8 Your first module, Math Read

1. What is a module? Why are they so helpful? A module is a collection of instructions saved together, they are helpful as they can easily accomplish various tasks and save the programmer time.
2. Using the documentation website referenced in the text, look at the range of mathematical functions available in the Math module. Name one that seems likely to be helpful or interesting to you. Math.degrees(x) should be helpful in easily converting from radians to degrees.

## Section 1.9 Developing an Algorithm Re-read

1. What is an algorithm? An algorithm is a method or a sequence of steps that describes how to solve a problem.
2. Why do they recommend testing *often*? Testing often allows you to figure out if there is a problem in your code and to make sure that your program does what it’s supposed to do.
3. Do a Google or Wikipedia search for “test-driven development”. What is the basic premise of this philosophy of programming? The basic premise of this philosophy of programming to test often, generally before you even begin developing anything, but also during your development for all possible use cases. This helps eliminate any program errors a user might encounter.

## Section 1.10 Turtle Graphics Skim

We’ll use turtle graphics some in class, since it can be an intuitive way to visualize what your code is doing. Skim this section to get a feeling for what it is and how it works. You are welcome to try out the code they give, but we’ll introduce it in class as well.

## Section 1.11 What’s wrong with my code? Read

1. What is their main advice in this section? The main advice in this section is to read the error message that you receive if something is wrong with your code.