Programming Problem

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Because I am, admittedly and proudly, a nerd, and because I have been told more than once that my extremely logical mind indicates that I must be part Vulcan, my only logical choice for this project was to leave earth and start a galaxy-based business. Therefore, I have chosen “Problem Three: Merchant’s Guide to the Galaxy” as my submission.

I chose the Apache NetBeans IDE version 12.4, running on MS Windows 10 Education edition, to complete this application in Java. I wrote it as a simple console application that can be run within the IDE or directly from the command line. When the program is run, it will look for a file in the current folder named “TradeNotes.txt”. This can be overridden by including a command-line argument with a file name (and location) of the user’s choosing. The file is read in and parsed to gather the required information to translate words into Roman Numerals, to determine products the user will be handling and their worth, and to gather questions from the user that can be answered based on the data provided.

The format of the file is based on the sample data provided with the problem description as well as the program requirements:

* The first lines must contain a single “word” (not necessarily from an Earth-based language) and a single upper-case letter indicating the Roman Numeral it represents (must be I V X L C D or M). These items must be separated by the word “is” or by an equal sign (“=“) and there must be a space on both sides of the word or the sign.
* The second set of lines must contain a quantity (the word(s) to indicate a Roman Numeral), the product name, the word “is” or an equal sign, a number indicating the value of this quantity of this item , and the word “Credits”. This will allow the program to determine how many credits a specific product is worth by dividing the value indicated by the quantity given.
* The remainder of the lines should ask either “how much is …” or “how many credits is …”. “How much is “ should be followed by the word(s) indicating a Roman Numeral to be translated. “How many credits is” should be followed by the word(s) indicating a Roman Numeral to be translated and the name of the product in question. ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ENDED WITH A QUESTION MARK (?).

To run this application from the command line without Ant, try:

java -jar "…\WhitespaceProblemThree\dist\WhitespaceProblemThree.jar"

Of course you will need to replace the “…” with the path where the included .zip file has been extracted.