## 

This Java application implements a console-based version of the classic word-guessing game Hangman. Players attempt to guess a hidden word letter-by-letter or by guessing the entire word at once. The game provides a variety of categories and randomly selects words from predefined lists.

## Features

* 20 Word Categories: Includes categories such as Movies, Books, Star Wars, Countries, Elements, Animals, Food, and Computer Science Vocabulary.
* Random Word Selection: Each game randomly selects a word from the chosen category.
* Lives System: Players have 16 lives per game. Incorrect guesses incrementally draw the hangman figure.
* Guessing Options: Players can guess individual letters or attempt to guess the entire word at any time by entering the "!" character.
* Console Interface: Clear text-based interface displaying instructions, current progress (dashes and correctly guessed letters), and visual hangman representation.

## Gameplay Instructions

1. Launch the program and follow the on-screen prompts.
2. Choose a category by entering its corresponding number (1-20).
3. Guess letters individually or enter "!" to guess the entire word.
4. Monitor your progress displayed as dashes (-) for unknown letters.
5. Win by correctly guessing all letters or lose if you exhaust all 16 lives.