

## Names, Scopes, and Bindings

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**High-Level Language (HLL):** The language syntax and semantics are significantly more abstract—farther from the hardware.

**Name:** a name is a mnemonic character string used to represent something else. Names in most languages are identifiers (alphanumeric tokens). Names allow us to refer to **variables**, **constants**, **operations**, and **types** using symbolic identifiers rather than low-level concepts like addresses

**Abstraction:** a process by which the programmer associates a name with a potentially complicated program fragment, which can then be thought of in terms of its purpose or function, rather than in terms of how that function is achieved.

**Subroutines** are control abstractions: they allow the programmer to hide arbitrarily complicated code behind a simple interface.

**Classes** are data abstractions: they allow a programmer to hide data representation details behind a simple set of operations.

**Referencing Environment:** The complete set of bindings in effect at a given point in a program.

Binding time refers not only to the binding of a name to the thing it represents, but also in general to the notion of resolving any design decision in a language implementation.