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Purpose: Practically, this assignment should be considered as *Assignment # 0*! The purpose of this assignment is to help you review some of the main topics covered in previous courses, such as classes, loops, arrays, static attributes and static methods.

General Guidelines When Writing Programs:

- Include the following comments at the top of your source codes
// -----
// Assignment (include number)
// Question: (include question/part number, if applicable)
// Written by: (include your name and student id)
// -----
- In a comment, give a general explanation of what your program does. As the programming questions get more complex, the explanations will get lengthier.
- Include comments in your program describing the main steps in your program.
- Display a welcome message which includes your name(s).
- Display clear prompts for users when you are expecting the user to enter data from the keyboard.
- All output should be displayed with clear messages and in an easy to read format.
- End your program with a closing message so that the user knows that the program has terminated.

JavaDoc Documentation:

Documentation for your program must be written in **JavaDoc**.

In addition, the following information must appear at the top of each file:

```
Name(s) and ID(s)    (include full names and IDs)
COMP249
Assignment #         (include the assignment number)
Due Date             (include the due date for this assignment)
```

Part I)

In this part, you need to create a class called LadderAndSnake. A LadderAndSnake object has a board of 10x10 and a number of players attached to it, which is initialized at the creation time of the object. For the scope of this assignment, the number of players will be limited to exactly 2. However, since an extension can be easily achieved where more players can play the game, the number of players must be set through the use of a parameterized constructor of the class. However, if any parameter is passed with a different value than 2, and warning message should be displayed, and the number of players is set to 2. If the value given to the parameterized constructor is less than 2, the program terminates (see details below). The playing board itself is set as shown in Figure 1 below.

As a strict requirement, you MUST create the board and manipulate it as 2-D array. More than one 2-D array can be used to achieve what is needed.



Figure 1: Ladder and Snake Board

Besides the constructors, and all basic methods in the class, the class must include two methods, one called **flipDice()**, which should return a random value between 1 and 6 inclusively. The other method is called **play()**, which actually initiate the core engine of the game where the players start to play the game. The rules of the game are as below:

- The game will be played only by 2 players.
- Before any of the players starts playing, the order of playing turns must be determined. For that, each player must throw the dice to obtain the largest possible number. In case of a tie between the players, the process is repeated until the order of playing is determined. You will need to keep track and report the number of attempts it took before the order was determined.
- At this point, the players start playing the game by alternating dice flipping.
- Each dice flip will move a player from square 0 (which you can think about it as outside the board) with the value of the dice. For example, if a player is at square 0 and the dice value was 5, then the player moves to square 5.
- If the reached square has a bottom of a ladder, then the player moves up to the square that has the top of the ladder. For instance, if a player is at square 33, and the flipped dice value was 3, then the player moves to square 36, which in turn will end moving the player up to square 44.
- If the reached square has a head of a snake, then the player moves down to the square that has the tail of the snake. For instance, if a player is at square 77, and the flipped dice value 2, then the player moves to square 79 (which has the tip of the snake's head), which in turn end moving the player down to square 19.
 - ⇒ You will have to find a way to record the relation between these particular ladder and snake squares.

- The game is concluded once one of the players EXACTLY, reaches square 100.
- If a player is close to 100, and the dice value exceeds the maximum possible moves, the player moves backward with the excessive amount. For instance, if a player is at square 96 and the dice value is 5, then the player moves to 99 (that is 4 moves to 100, then 1 move backward to 99).

As a general requirement, you must show/display ALL operations of the game. For instance, at start, you should indicate something like:

- Game is played only by 2 players.
 - If the initialization attempted a different number that is > 2 , you should display the following warning: "Initialization was attempted for x member of players; however, this is only expected for an extended version the game. Value will be set to 2" (where x is the number of players attempted by the parameterized constructor);
 - If the number given as < 2 ; then you must display an error message indicating the following: "Error: Cannot execute the game with less than 2 players! Will exit". The program must then terminates immediately.
- Now deciding which player will start playing;
- Player 1 got a dice value of 5
Player 2 got a dice value of 5
A tie was achieved between Player 1 and Player 2. Attempting to break the tie
Player 1 got a dice value of 4
Player 2 got a dice value of 4
A tie was achieved between Player 1 and Player 2. Attempting to break the tie
Player 1 got a dice value of 6
Player 2 got a dice value of 3
- Reached final decision on order of playing: Player 1 then Player 2. It took 3 attempts before a decision could be made.
- Player 1 got a dice value of 5; now in square 5
- Player 2 got a dice value of 6; now in square 6
- Game not over; flipping again
- Player 1 got dice value of 4; gone to square 9 then up to square 31
- Player 2 got dice value of 4; now in square 10
- Game not over; flipping again
- :
- :

The above sample of displays is the basic minimum that you should have. A better mark is given for implementing the board as a 2-D array, and for a more elaborate/creative displays (i.e. possibly visibly showing the plays/moves, giving each of the players a name, etc. There is no limit of what you can do here. Be impressive!).

Special Condition: The two players **cannot** be at the same cell at the same time. If this occurs, the player who reaches that cell last will kick the first one and resets it to go back to cell 0 (outside the board; where he/she must restart again from that point). For example, Player 2 is at cell 24, and Player 1 flips the dice and

moves to cell 27 then Player 2 flips and gets 3, which moves him/her to 27; this will result in Player 1 being reset to 0.

Note: As it might not be clear from the image of the board, the red snake's head is in square 64 with the head of the orange snake that it crosses is in square 79; the huge green snake's head is in square 95.

Part II)

Create a public driver class called PlayLadderAndSnake. In the main() method, you need to prompt the user to enter the number of players that he/she needs to play the game with. The user should ideally enter a value of 2; however, the user can enter anything! If the user does not enter a correct value, the program will behave as explained above either by giving a warning or an error message and terminates. No warning or error should be given if the value is entered as 2.

Once a good value is given or set to 2, the game starts until one player wins.

⇒ **A final note:** You can see that the description of the assignment, while surely sufficient, is very undetailed! **Be creative; this is programming!**

Submitting Assignment 1

- For this assignment, you are allowed to work individually, or in a group of a maximum of 2 students (i.e. you and one other student). Groups of more than 2 students = zero mark for all members! Submit only **ONE** version of an assignment. If more than one version is submitted the first one will be graded and all others will be disregarded.
- Students will have to submit their assignments (**one copy per group**) using Moodle. Assignments must be submitted in the right DropBox/folder of the assignments. **Assignments uploaded to an incorrect DropBox/folder will not be marked and result in a zero mark. No resubmissions will be allowed.**
- **Naming convention for zip file:** Create one zip file, containing all source files and produced documentations for your assignment using the following naming convention:
The zip file should be called *a#_StudentName_StudentID*, where # is the number of the assignment and *StudentName/StudentID* is your name and ID number respectively. Use your “official” name only - no abbreviations or nick names; capitalize the usual “last” name. Inappropriate submissions will be heavily penalized. For example, for the first assignment, student 12345678 would submit a zip file named like: *a1_Mike-Simon_123456.zip*. if working in a group, the name should look like: *a1_Mike-Simon_12345678-AND-Linda-Jackson_98765432.zip*.
- Again, if working in a team, **only one of the members can upload the assignment. Do NOT upload the file for each of the members!**

IMPORTANT (Please read very carefully): Additionally, which is very important, a demo will take place with the markers afterwards. Markers will inform you about the details of demo time and how to book a time slot for your demo. If working in a group, both members must be present during demo time. Different marks may be assigned to teammates based on this demo.

- **If you fail to demo, a zero mark is assigned regardless of your submission.**
- **If you book a demo time, and do not show up, for whatever reason, you will be allowed to reschedule a second demo but a penalty of 50% will be applied.**
- **Failing to demo at the second appointment will result in zero marks and no more chances will be given under any conditions.**

Evaluation Criteria for Assignment 1 (10 points)

Documentations	1 pts
JavaDoc documentations	1 pt
Part I (Class LadderAndSnake)	8 pts
constructors & Basic methods	1 pt
flipDice() method	1 pt
play() method & all other needed methods for program to correctly function	6 pt
Part II (Driver)	1 pts
Handling # of palyers entries	1 pt