

Q:

I agree with much of what Paul Graham says in the essay, but not everything. In particular, there is something implied by the way he describes the language Lisp, which conflicts with something I said in my first lecture. What is it?

A:

Paul Graham implies within the essay that “Lisp has no syntax” and therefore when compiling the language into machine language, it is “generated” instead of parsed, and thus, a better program to use in the given situation. Nonetheless, Professor Steinberg stated within his lesson that when programming languages compile, it goes through a parser and is parsed, not generated like Graham implies, into machine-readable code to later be executed.