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Practice Quiz: Introduction to Programming

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TOTAL POINTS 5

1. What's a computer program?   [Resume]   **1 / 1 point**

   ○ A set of languages available in the computer

   ○ A process for getting duplicate values removed from a list

   ● A list of instructions that the computer has to follow to reach a goal

   ○ A file that gets copied to all machines in the network

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   ✓ **Correct**
   You nailed it! At a basic level, a computer program is a recipe of instructions that tells your computer what to do.

2. What's the syntax of a language?   **1 / 1 point**

   ● The rules of how to express things in that language

   ○ The subject of a sentence

   ○ The difference between one language and another

   ○ The meaning of the words

   ✓ **Correct**
   Right on! In a human language, syntax is the rules for how a sentence is constructed, and in a programming language, syntax is the rules for how each instruction is written.

3. What's the difference between a program and a script?   **1 / 1 point**

   ● There's not much difference, but scripts are usually simpler and shorter.

   ○ Scripts are only written in Python.

   ○ Scripts can only be used for simple tasks.

   ○ Programs are written by software engineers; scripts are written by system administrators.

   ✓ **Correct**
   You got it! The line between a program and a script is blurry; scripts usually have a shorter development cycle. This means that scripts are shorter, simpler, and can be written very quickly.

4. Which of these scenarios are good candidates for automation? Select all that apply.   **0 / 1 point**

   ☑ Generating a sales report, split by region and product type

   ✓ **Correct**
   Excellent! Creating a report that presents stored data in specific ways is a tedious task that can be easily automated.

   ☐ Creating your own startup company

   ☐ Helping a user who's having network troubles

   ☐ Copying a file to all computers in a company

   ☐ Interviewing a candidate for a job

   ☑ Sending personalized emails to subscribers of your website

   ✓ **Correct**
   Great job! Sending out periodic emails is a time-consuming task that can be easily automated, and you won't have to worry about forgetting to do it on a regular basis.

   ☐ Investigating the root cause of a machine failing to boot

   You didn't select all the correct answers

5. What are semantics when applied to programming code and pseudocode?   **1 / 1 point**

   ○ The rules for how a programming instruction is written

   ○ The difference in number values in one instance of a script compared to another

   ● The effect the programming instructions have

   ○ The end result of a programming instruction

   ✓ **Correct**
   Nice job! Like human language, the intended meaning or effect of words, or in this case instructions, are referred to as semantics.