

## **2019 AP® COMPUTER SCIENCE A FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

3. Many encoded strings contain *delimiters*. A delimiter is a non-empty string that acts as a boundary between different parts of a larger string. The delimiters involved in this question occur in pairs that must be *balanced*, with each pair having an open delimiter and a close delimiter. There will be only one type of delimiter for each string. The following are examples of delimiters.

### Example 1

Expressions in mathematics use open parentheses " ( " and close parentheses " ) " as delimiters. For each open parenthesis, there must be a matching close parenthesis.

(x + y) \* 5      is a valid mathematical expression.

(x + (y)      is NOT a valid mathematical expression because there are more open delimiters than close delimiters.

### Example 2

HTML uses <B> and </B> as delimiters. For each open delimiter <B>, there must be a matching close delimiter </B>.

<B> Make this text bold </B>      is valid HTML.

<B> Make this text bold </UB>      is NOT valid HTML because there is one open delimiter and no matching close delimiter.

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In this question, you will write two methods in the following `Delimiters` class.

```
public class Delimiters
{
    /** The open and close delimiters. */
    private String openDel;
    private String closeDel;

    /** Constructs a Delimiters object where open is the open delimiter and close is the
     *  close delimiter.
     *  Precondition: open and close are non-empty strings.
     */
    public Delimiters(String open, String close)
    {
        openDel = open;
        closeDel = close;
    }

    /** Returns an ArrayList of delimiters from the array tokens, as described in part (a). */
    public ArrayList<String> getDelimitersList(String[] tokens)
    { /* to be implemented in part (a) */ }

    /** Returns true if the delimiters are balanced and false otherwise, as described in part (b).
     *  Precondition: delimiters contains only valid open and close delimiters.
     */
    public boolean isBalanced(ArrayList<String> delimiters)
    { /* to be implemented in part (b) */ }

    // There may be instance variables, constructors, and methods that are not shown.
}
```