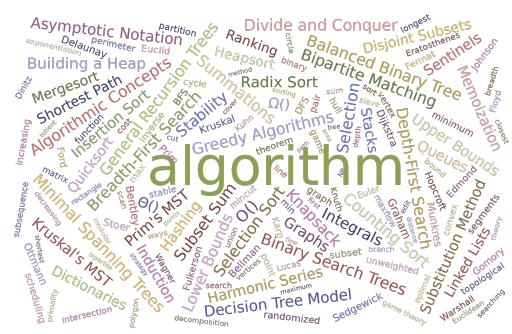
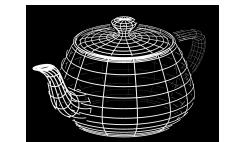
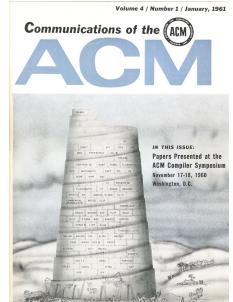
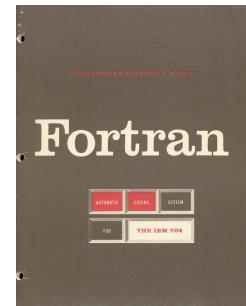


Facts of Life



Fall 2020

2020 October 08



Facts of Life

How to Take the Examination



Anonymous must remain Anonymous

- All examinations are graded *Anonymously*; that is, the grader does not know whose examination it is.
 - This helps to ensure that there is no bias in the grading.
- To preserve this anonymity, do **not** put any identifying information in your answers.
 - Some questions might ask you to construct an example. When doing so, do **not** use, e.g., your name, NetID, Student ID, etc. in the answer.



Question Format

- Questions on will look something like this:
 - [1] What is the square root of 25?
- The [1] means this question is worth one point.
- A question may also look something like this:
 - [3] (a) What is the square root of 36?
 - [2] (b) What is the cube root of -27?
- This is a two-part question. Part (a) is worth three points and part (b) is worth two points.



Short Answers should be *Short Answers*

- Every question on this examination should be answered as *briefly* as possible. There is no need to go on and on and on and ...
- Yes/No questions should be answered with just a Yes or No.
 - If you absolutely feel the answer should be *Maybe*, answer with that, but then *explain why the answer isn't just Yes or No.*
 - *Maybe* answers get **zero credit** unless explained.
- If a question calls for a one word or one number answer, answer with just *one word* or *one number*.



Short Answers should be *Short Answers*

- Remember, the more you write, the more chance you have to screw up your answer and thereby lose points.
- The more you write, the more likely it is that the correct answer (even if you give it) will get lost in the excess words and will not be recognized.
- It's also fairly clear when a student is using lots of words to cover up the fact that they do not know the answer. That doesn't work.
 - Graders have evaluated an enormous number of student answers over the years and—trust me—this ploy is obvious.



Short Answers should be *Short* Answers

- Therefore, just give the *briefest* answer that *completely* answers the question.
- For example, if the question were something like this:

What is the product of 2 and 3?

- Your answer should look like this:

6

- or perhaps

six



Short Answers should be *Short* Answers

- An answer like this ...

The product of 2 and 3 is found by performing the mathematical operation called "multiplication" (which was probably invented by the Babylonians or maybe the Egyptians—though I believe it was actually given to humans by aliens (who arrived here in Flying Saucers (which seem to have been powered by engines developed using advanced physical principles that are still beyond the capabilities of the most advanced human thinkers (who can be found at such fine places of advanced learning as the University of Texas at Arlington (which also has a very nice stadium (where the professional football (did you know that everywhere on Earth *except* the United States "football" means "soccer"?)) team "The Dallas Cowboys" (why are they called the "Dallas" cowboys if they play all their games in Arlington? That always confuses me (though not very much as I try not to think about it too often)) plays their games) as well as many other interesting locations such as the Twisted Root (what a weird name!) restaurant (which serves bison burgers!)) and especially in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (have you ever wondered what the difference is between "Science" and "Engineering"? I know I have!)) even though great strides have been made in propulsion over the past few decades) though some think that a "transporter" like device (you know, like they had in "Star Trek" (wasn't that a *great* show (though I didn't like all those follow-on shows that much (but the movies were OK until they got all weird!)) (except for that idiotic "Spock's Brain" episode—geez, that was the *worst* piece of poop I have ever seen!))) was used to "beam" them here instead (well, what I have never understood is how the got back to where they came from (I wonder which planet (is it even necessary that it was a "planet"? I mean maybe it was just from interstellar space -- isn't that an interesting idea?) they came from?) after beaming here -- I mean did they build another transporter here on Earth (and if they did, why didn't Erich von Däniken (did you know that he is actually Swiss? I always thought he was German with a name like that (but there are lots of persons with German-sounding names in Switzerland—who knew?)) ever find it? After all he found so many other interesting items, you would think he would be able to find a transporter device that could beam aliens across the galaxy (and probably needed a nuclear (why is everyone so down on nuclear power? Yes, it can be dangerous, but crossing the street (did you know you are supposed to always cross at the corners otherwise it's called jay-walking (why "jay"? Isn't that a bird and don't birds fly (yes, I know some birds don't fly (like an ostrich or an emu (which are very dumb birds, though it's not nice to say so even though it's true)) and are still considered (who gets to decide stuff like that? I mean is there a secret board of advanced bird thinkers (and why didn't Erich von Däniken find *them*, huh?) who make rulings on that kind of thing and then we all have to go by it, even if we don't agree? That's not very democratic (invented by the Greeks (even though they owned slaves (even for Athens it's been estimated that each family on average owned three or four slaves (wow!)) and didn't let everyone vote (only adult male citizens), did you know that?)) is it? birds, but that's besides the point) and not walk) and is a crime (well, technically, it's an "infraction" and you'll probably only get a ticket (well, technically, a "citation")) is dangerous as well and people do that all the time) reactor to supply the power.) and use it to go back?))).



Short Answers should be *Short Answers*

- ... is going to cost you a *lot* of points. Especially if, as in this case, you never get around to answering the question.
- Even an answer like this:

The answer to your question of what is the product of 2 and 3 is 6.
- is going to lose points. The more the grader has to dig for your answer, the fewer points you're going to get.



Short Answers should be *Short Answers*

- OK, enough on *Short*. Let's now discuss *Answers*.
- Ensure that you actually *answer* the question.
- Do not just restate the question as the answer!
- For example, for questions like ...

What is the difference between a and b?

- Sometimes answers show up like this ...

The difference between a and b is that a is different from b.



Short Answers should be Short *Answers*

- What? That's not an *answer* to the question.
- Ensure that you actually *answer* the question.
- Just putting some words down earns ***no credit***—you *must* supply an answer that has *your original* content..
- Do *not* restate the question as an answer. There's ***no credit*** for that.
 - Also, restating the question even in a legitimate answer just makes the answer longer. Keep the answer *short!*



[Examples are (Usually) Not Answers]

- An *example* is ***not*** a (complete) answer. No number of examples can show that something is *always* true. You must supply *reasoning* justifying any claim.
- You ***may*** use an example as a *Counter Example*. Viz.,
“Every prime must be an odd number.”
“No, 2 is a prime and it is even.”

[*No amount of experimentation can ever prove me right; a single experiment can prove me wrong.*]

— Albert Einstein, on the *Theory of Relativity*]

This “quote” is probably apocryphal but it gets the idea across magnificently.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criticism_of_the_theory_of_relativity#A_Hundred_Authors_Against_Einstein



[Examples are (Usually) *Not* Answers]

- However, if you can list *all* cases, then listing examples could be an acceptable answer.

Q: Prove all odd numbers in the range (1, 8] are prime.

A: The only odd numbers in that range are 3, 5, and 7, and those numbers are all prime. QED.



Short Answers should be Short *Answers*

- For “alternatives” questions like ...

Is the sum of 1+2 equal to 2, 3, or 4?

- Sometimes someone answers ...

Yes.

- This is going to score **zero points**. For “alternatives” questions, you have to *pick* one of the alternatives and give it as your answer.



Short Answers should be *Short Answers*

Remember,

- ▶ Make your answer ***complete*** but as ***brief as possible***.
- ▶ Ensure you actually ***answer*** the question.
- ▶ Do ***not*** restate the question ***as*** (or ***in***) the answer.
- ▶ “Examples” are ***not*** answers (except as *counter examples*).
- ▶ Answer an “alternatives” question by giving one of the alternatives as your answer, not just with “yes” or “no”.



Multiple-Part Questions

- Some questions are in multiple parts.
- The parts are indicated by marks such as (a), (b), and so forth.
- Ensure that your answer gives *individual* answers to each part and *marks the answers* to those parts the same way.



Multiple-Part Questions

- For example, if the question were something like this:
 - (a) Is the sum of 2 and 3 equal to 5?
 - (b) What is the product of 2 and 3?
- Your answer should look like this:
 - (a) Yes
 - (b) 6
- Note that in each case the *individual* answer to *each* part is *specifically identified* with the name of the part.



Multiple-Part Questions

- Answering anything like this:

Yes, 6.
- is *incorrect* and will score *zero points*.
- It doesn't *clearly* separate the answers to the two parts nor does it *identify which* answer goes with *which* part.



Multiple-Part Questions

Remember,

- ▶ Not giving ***individual*** answers to each part
- or*
- ▶ Not ***marking each part*** of the answer ***appropriately*** will score ***zero credit***.



“Justify Your Answer”

- Some questions are in two parts, the first part asks a question and the second part asks you to “justify your answer”.
- “Justifying” your answer means to supply *reason(s)* that your answer is *correct*.
 - In particular, do *not* just restate the question as the answer.
 - Restating the question, even in other words, is ***not*** a *reason*.
 - An *example* is ***not*** a *reason*, unless it’s a *counter example*.



“Justify Your Answer”

- For example, consider this question:
 - (a) Is it better to be smart or beautiful?
 - (b) Justify your answer to part (a).
- A reasonable answer could be:
 - (a) Smart
 - (b) Smart is a characteristic that will last one's entire lifetime whereas Beautiful is a characteristic that will fade over time.



“Justify Your Answer”

- That answer will score full marks. It picked one of the alternatives and gave a cogent reason as justification.
- Good job!



“Justify Your Answer”

- On the other hand, this is not going to score any points:
 - (a) Smart
 - (b) Smart is a better trait than Beautiful.
- as it does not provide any *reasoning* to support the selection, which is *meaningless* without the justification.
- Therefore, ***zero credit***.
- Remember, an *example* is ***not*** a *reason* (unless it's being used as a *counter example*).



“Justify Your Answer”

Remember,

- ▶ Not having a ***cogent, meaningful*** justification scores ***zero points***.
- ▶ Just ***restating*** the question (even in other words) is ***not*** a justification.
- ▶ An example is ***not*** a justification, unless it's a *counter example*.



Fill in the Blanks Questions

- Some questions are “fill in the blank(s)”. Supply the word or words that will complete the answer in the way that we have discussed in class.
- Just having a coherent sentence is *not* enough; you must complete the thought along the lines we have discussed in class. You don’t have to use the *exact* words used in class, but the *concept* must be the same.
- These answers will always be only a few words at most. There’s no need to write long answers here.



Fill in the Blanks Questions

- For example, the question:

A homework that _____ will score
_____ points.

- could be answered:

is submitted late, zero

- as the wording fits the sentence *and* that concept was discussed in class.



Fill in the Blanks Questions

- That same question:

A homework that _____ will score
_____ points.

- could also be answered:

core dumps, zero

- as this wording also fits the sentence *and* that concept was also discussed in class.



Fill in the Blanks Questions

Remember, when filling in the blanks,

The wording **must** fit the sentence.

and

The concept **must** be as discussed in class.



Using Names given in Questions

- Some questions look like this ...

If a rectangle r has height h and width w , what is its area?

- The answer should be this ...

$$h \cdot w$$

- When IDs like this are given in a question, use them when phrasing your answer.
 - Use only the IDs you need. We didn't need r in the answer.



“Within a Factor ...”

- Some questions ask you to *estimate* a quantity.
 - This is so you don't get hammered for saying "7,342,692" when the *correct* answer was actually "7,342,691".
- The question will be phrased something like this ...

Within a factor of 2, how many continents are there?
- “Factor of 2” means that your answer has to be at least *half* ($\times \frac{1}{2}$) but not more than *double* ($\times 2$) the correct value.



Honor Code

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

I pledge, on my honor, that I will not receive help in taking this examination from another student or from unauthorized materials, nor will I allow any student to receive help from me.



Facts of Life

Testing in the Time of the Virus



Testing in the Time of the Virus

- All testing will now be done online using Canvas.
 - Lockdown browser with Monitoring.
- A practice quiz will be posted so you can get your technology straight before we have to do it for real.
 - No, the practice quiz will not affect your grade. It's just to see if your technology is working OK.
 - You *will* need your UTA Student ID to take the practice quiz.



Technology Info ...

Lockdown Browser and Monitoring

Faculty using the Monitoring (video) browser for on-line exams, may want to remind students that they will need to have an ID to take the test. Some students (not an overwhelming number, but consistently) have returned to their home without their UTA ID and are now concerned about getting it in time for an upcoming test. To get replacement IDs in person or via mail, please contact the [MavExpress](#) office.

Lockdown Browser and Cell Phone Cameras

Students can use their cell phone cameras for the Lockdownm Browsing Monitoring feature. For [Android](#) Phones; for [iPhones](#). Students will need to download both the application on their phone and the driver for their computer (Mac or Windows). For best results, students should plug their phones into their computers with a USB cable.



Those links ...

- **MavExpress** office info ...

<https://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/mavexpress/obtaincard.php>

- **Android** phone as webcam ...

<https://www.digitalcitizen.life/turn-android-smartphone-webcam-windows>

- **iPhone** as webcam ...

<https://www.digitalcitizen.life/how-turn-iphone-ipad-webcam-windows-pc>



FYI ...

- For those of you who are technology limited, you may be able to get some assistance from the UTA Library.
 - **UTA Library** link is <https://libraries.uta.edu/>

New Laptops and Tablets

OIT is fast tracking purchases and imaging of laptops and tablets to make them available to faculty and students. Students can check with **UTA Library** for availability, or call 272-3395. Faculty should submit a **ServiceNow** ticket with their technology request.



Student ID

- You *absolutely* must have your valid UTA Student ID to take quizzes and examinations.
- If you do not have one, *get one now!*
- The Mav Express office issues ID cards. Their process is detailed here:

<https://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/mavexpress/obtaincard.php>



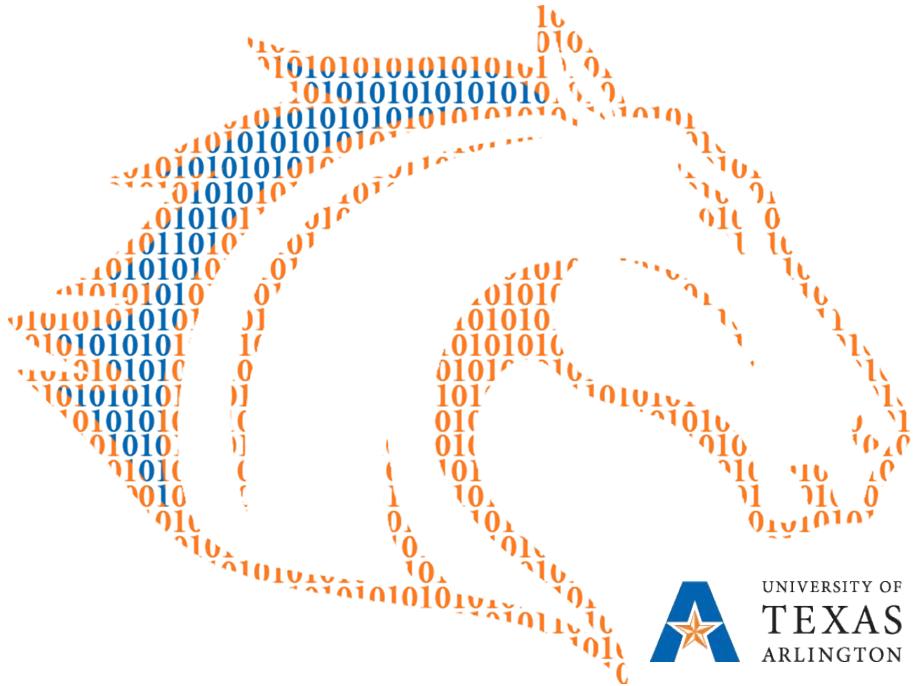
Student ID

- If you do not happen to be local at present, you *might* be able to use the Mav Express “Distance ID Card” process.
- See here for details.

<https://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/mavexpress/distanceid/distanceid.php>

- No matter what method you use, you *must* have a valid, current UTA Student ID to take quizzes and examinations.





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