Arrays (Lists)

An *array* is a sequence of scalars, indexed by position (0,1,2,...)
The whole array is denoted by `@array`
Individual array elements are denoted by `$array[index]`
$#array gives the *index of the last element*.
Example:

```
$a[0] = "first string";
$a[1] = "2nd string";
$a[2] = 123;

# or, equivalently,

@a = ("first string", "2nd string", 123);

print "Index of last element is $#a\n";
print "Number of elements is ", $#a+1, "\n";
```

Arrays (Lists)

```
@a = ("abc", 123, 'x');

# scalar context ... gives list length
$n = @a;          #  $n == 3

# string context ... gives space-separated elems
$s = "@a";        #  $s eq "abc 123 x"

# scalar context ... gives list length
$t = @a."";       #  $t eq "3"

# list context ... gives joined elems
print @a;         #  displays "abc123x"
```

In Perl, interpretation is context-dependent.

Arrays (Lists)

Arrays do not need to be declared, and they grow and shrink as needed.
"Missing" elements are interpolated, e.g.

```
$abc[0] = "abc";  $abc[2] = "xyz";
# reference to $abc[1] returns ""
```

Can assign *to* a whole array; can assign *from* a whole array, e.g.

```
@numbers = (4, 12, 5, 7, 2, 9);
($a, $b, $c, $d) = @numbers;
```

Since assignment of list elements happens in parallel ...

```
($x, $y) = ($y, $x);    # swaps values of $x, $y}
```

Arrays (Lists)

Array *slices*, e.g.

```
@list = (1, 3, 5, 7, 9);
print "@list[0,2]\n";    # displays "1 5"
print "@list[0..2]\n";   # displays "1 3 5"
print "@list[4,2,3]\n"; # displays "9 5 7"
print "@list[0..9]\n";   # displays "1 3 5 7 9"
```

Array values interpolated into array literals:

```
@a = (3, 5, 7);
@b = @a;              # @b = (3,5,7);
@c = (1, @a, 9);      # @c = (1,3,5,7,9);
@a == (@a) == ((@a)) ...
```

Arrays (Lists)

Arrays can be accessed element-at-a-time using the `for` loop:

```
@nums = (23, 95, 33, 42, 17, 87);
$sum = 0;
# @nums in scalar context gives length
for ($i = 0; $i < @nums; $i++) {
    $sum += $nums[$i];
}
$sum = 0;
foreach $num (@nums) { sum += $num; }
```

push and pop act on the "right-hand" end of an array:

```
                    # Value of @a
@a = (1,3,5);       # (1,3,5)
push @a, 7;         # (1,3,5,7)
$x = pop @a;        # (1,3,5,7), $x == 7
$y = pop @a;        # (1,3,5), $y == 5
```

Arrays (Lists)

Other useful operations on arrays:

`@b = sort(@a)`	returns sorted version of `@a`
`@b = reverse(@a)`	returns reversed version of `@a`
`shift(@a)`	like `pop(@a)`, but from left-hand end
`unshift(@a,x)`	like `push(@a,x)`, but at left-hand end

Lists as Strings

Recall the marks example from earlier on; we used `"54,67,88"` to effectively hold a list of marks.
Could we turn this into a real list if e.g. we wanted to compute an average?
The *split* operation allows us to do this:
Syntax: `split(/`*pattern*`/,`*string*`)` returns a list
The *join* operation allows us to convert from list to string:
Syntax: `join(`*string*`,`*list*`)` returns a string
(Don't confuse this with the `join` filter in the shell. Perl's `join` acts more like `paste`.)

Lists as Strings

Examples:

```
$marks = "99,67,85,48,77,84";

@listOfMarks = split(/,/, $marks);
# assigns (99,67,85,48,77,84) to @listOfMarks

$sum = 0;
foreach $m (@listOfMarks) {
    $sum += $m;
}

$newMarks = join(':',@listOfMarks);
# assigns "99:67:85:48:77:84" to $newMarks
```

Lists as Strings

Complex splits can be achieved by using a full regular expression rather than a single delimiter character.
If part of the regexp is parenthesised, the corresponding part of each delimiter is retained in the resulting list.

```
# returns (ab,c,d,e)
split(/[#@]+/, 'ab##@#c#d@@e');
# returns (ab,##@#,c,#,d,@@,e)
split(/([#@]+)/, 'ab##@#c#d@@e');
# returns (ab,#,c,#,d,@,e)
split(/([#@])+/, 'ab##@#c#d@@e');
```

And as a specially useful case, the empty regexp is treated as if it matched between every character, splitting the string into a list of single characters:

```
# returns (h, e, l, l, o)
split//, 'hello');
```

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

As well as arrays indexed by numbers, Perl supports arrays indexed by strings: *hashes*.
Conceptually, as hash is a set (not list) of (*key*, *value*) pairs.
We can deal with an entire hash at a time via *%hashName*, e.g.

```
          #  Key      Value

%days = ( "Sun" => "Sunday",
          "Mon" => "Monday",
          "Tue" => "Tuesday",
          "Wed" => "Wednesday",
          "Thu" => "Thursday",
          "Fri" => "Friday",
          "Sat" => "Saturday" );
```

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Individual components of a hash are accessed via
$*hashName*{*keyString*}
Examples:

```
$days{"Sun"}    # returns "Sunday"
$days{"Fri"}    # returns "Friday"
$days{"dog"}    # is undefined (interpreted as "")
$days{0}        # is undefined (interpreted as "")

# inserts a new (key,value)
$days{"dog"} = "Dog Day Afternoon";

# replaces value for key "Sun"
$days{"Sun"} = "Soonday";
```

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Consider the following two assignments:

```
@f = ("John", "blue", "Anne", "red", "Tim", "pink");
%g = ("John" => "blue", "Anne" => "red",
      "Tim" => "pink");
```

The first produces an array of strings that can be accessed via position, such as `$f[0]`
The second produces a lookup table of names and colours, e.g. `$g{"Tim"}`.
In fact the symbols => and comma have identical meaning in a list, so either right-hand side could have been used. However, always use the arrow form exclusively for hashes.

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Consider iterating over each of these data structures:

```
foreach $x (@f) {
    print "$x\n";
}
```

```
John
blue
Anne
red
Tim
pink
```

```
foreach $x (keys %g) {
   print "$x => $g{$x}\n";
}
```

```
Anne => red
Tim => pink
John => blue
```

The data comes out of the hash in a fixed but arbitrary order (due to the hash function).

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

There are several ways to examine the (*key*, *value*) pairs in a hash:

```
foreach $key (keys %myHash) {
    print "($key, $myHash{$key})\n";
}
```

or, if you just want the values without the keys

```
foreach $val (values %myHash) {
    print "(?, $val)\n";
}
```

or, if you want them both together

```
while (($key,$val) = each %myHash) {
    print "($key, $val)\n";
}
```

Note that each method produces the keys/values in the same order. It's illegal to change the hash within these loops.

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Example (collecting marks for each student):

- a data file of (*name*, *mark*) pairs, space-separated, one per line
- out should be (*name*, *marksList*), with comma-separated marks

```
while (<>) {
    chomp;     # remove newline
    ($name, $mark) = split;    # separate data fields
    $marks{$name} .= ",$mark";# accumulate marks
}
foreach $name (keys %marks) {
    $marks{$name} =~ s/,//;    # remove comma prefix
    print "$name $marks{$name}\n";
}
```

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

The `delete` function removes an entry (or entries) from an associative array.
To remove a single pair:

```
delete $days{"Mon"};  # "I don't like Mondays"
```

To remove multiple pairs:

```
delete @days{ ("Sat","Sun") }; # No weekend!
```

To clean out the entire hash:

```
foreach $d (keys %days) {
delete $days{$d};
}

# or, more simply
%days = ();
```