

Practice Quiz: Introduction to Programming

Total points 5

1.Question 1

What's a computer program?

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

Correct

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

2.Question 2

What's the syntax of a language?

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.Question 3

What's the difference between a program and a script?

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.Question 4

Which of these scenarios are good candidates for automation? Select all that apply.

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

Correct

Nice work! A task like copying files to other computers is easily automated, and helps to reduce unnecessary manual work.

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

5.Question 5

What are semantics when applied to programming code and pseudocode?

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.