# CS 106A, Lecture 10 File Reading

reading:

Art & Science of Java, 12.4

# **Plan For Today**

- Practice: Caesar Cipher
- File Processing
- Try-Catch
- Practice: Election Results

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# Why Files?

Files are cool! They provide us another place to read in text, besides prompting the user. They can store a lot of information that can easily be read in and processed.

Virtually all programs that you've used at some point read files from disk:

- Word processing (documents)
- Web browser (cookies)
- Games (saved progress)
- Eclipse (Java files)
- Music player (songs)

#### What Are Files?

A file is just a series of **bits** (ones and zeros).

Those bits can have structure:

- Plain-text: Bits represent characters.
- JPEG: Bits encode information about the structure of an image.
- MP3: Bits encode frequency information about music.
- etc.

#### What Are Files?

A file is just a series of *bits* (ones and zeros).

Those bits can have structure:

- Plain-text: Bits represent characters.
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- MP3: Bits encode frequency information about music.
- etc.

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...
- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
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He wasn't there again today
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```

Step one:
Open the file for reading.

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...
- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...
- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
```

```
import java.util.*; // for Scanner
import java.io.*; // for File
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...
- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
```

Step Two:

Read the file, one line at a time.

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,

I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...

- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"

Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
```

// Yesterday, upon the stair

String line1 = input.nextLine();

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,

I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...

- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// Yesterday, upon the stair
String line1 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
  He wasn't there again today
  I wish, I wish he'd go away...
  - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// Yesterday, upon the stair
String line1 = input.nextLine();
// I met a man who wasn't there
String line2 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
  He wasn't there again today
  I wish, I wish he'd go away...
  - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// "Yesterday, upon the stair"
String line1 = input.nextLine();
// I met a man who wasn't there
String line2 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
 He wasn't there again today
  I wish, I wish he'd go away...
  - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// He wasn't there again today
String line3 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
  He wasn't there again today
  I wish, I wish he'd go away...
  - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// He wasn't there again today
String line3 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
  He wasn't there again today
  I wish, I wish he'd go away...
   - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// He wasn't there again today
String line3 = input.nextLine();
// I wish, I wish he'd go away
String line4 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
  He wasn't there again today
  I wish, I wish he'd go away...
  - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// He wasn't there again today
String line3 = input.nextLine();
// I wish, I wish he'd go away
String line4 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
  He wasn't there again today
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  - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
String line5 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...
- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
```

```
// - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
String line5 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
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```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
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// - Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
String line5 = input.nextLine();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
  I met a man who wasn't there
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Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
// prints all lines in the file
while (input.hasNextLine()) {
```

String line = input.nextLine();

println(line);

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...
- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
...
// prints all lines in the file
while (input.hasNextLine()) {
    String line = input.nextLine();
    println(line);
}
```

Step Three: close the file.

```
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```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
...
// prints all lines in the file
while (input.hasNextLine()) {
    String line = input.nextLine();
    println(line);
}
input.close();
```

#### **Scanner methods**

Method	Description
<pre>sc.nextLine()</pre>	reads and returns a one-line String from the file
<pre>sc.next()</pre>	reads and returns a one-word String from the file
<pre>sc.nextInt()</pre>	reads and returns an int from the file
<pre>sc.nextDouble()</pre>	reads and returns a double from the file
<pre>sc.hasNextLine()</pre>	returns true if there are any more lines
<pre>sc.hasNext()</pre>	returns true if there are any more tokens
<pre>sc.hasNextInt()</pre>	returns true if there is a next token and it's an int
<pre>sc.hasNextDouble()</pre>	returns true if there is a next token and it's a double
<pre>sc.close();</pre>	should be called when done reading the file

```
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He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...
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```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
...
// prints each word on its own line
while (input.hasNext()) {
    String word = input.next();
    println(word);
}
input.close();
```

```
Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
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Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
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input.close();
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Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
...
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}
input.close();
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// prints each word on its own line
while (input.hasNext()) {
    String word = input.next();
    println(word);
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input.close();
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```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
...
// prints each word on its own line
while (input.hasNext()) {
    String word = input.next();
    println(word);
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input.close();
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```
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I met a man who wasn't there

He wasn't there again today

I wish, I wish he'd go away...

- Hughes Mearns, "Antagonish"
```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("mydata.txt"));
...
// prints each word on its own line
while (input.hasNext()) {
    String word = input.next();
    println(word);
}
input.close();
```

# Reading tokens

Calling nextDouble etc. skips whitespace and reads one token.

# Reading lines

When you read a line, the cursor advances past the next \n marker.

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## **Sometimes Things Break**

Programs sometimes encounter unexpected errors.

Sometimes these are bugs:

Dividing by zero.

Sometimes these are due to external factors:

- Network errors.
- Missing files.

#### **Exceptional Cases**

- An exception occurs if Java encounters a case where it can't proceed as normal.
- Java requires that your program handle certain types of exceptions.
- Think of exceptions as rerouting control in an emergency:
  - If all goes well, program continues as usual.
  - If something goes wrong, handle the emergency.
- File processing exceptions: file not found, corrupted, etc.

#### Try your best...

```
try {
    // code that might throw an exception
    statements;
}
```

# ...we'll catch you if you fall!

```
try {
    // code that might throw an exception
    statements;
} catch (ExceptionType name) {
    // code to handle the error
    statements;
}
```

## Try/Catch

```
try {
    statements; // code that might throw an exception
} catch (ExceptionType name) {
    statements; // code to handle the error
}
```

• To execute code that might throw an exception, you must enclose it in a try/catch statement.

```
try {
    Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("data.txt"));
    ...
} catch (FileNotFoundException ex) {
    println("Error reading the file: " + ex);
}
```

## Try/Catch

To execute code that might throw an exception, you must enclose it in a try/catch statement.

```
If something
                                        fails up here...
try {
    Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("data.txt"));
    while (input.hasNextLine()) {
           String line = input.nextLine();
           println(line);
} catch (FileNotFoundException ex) {
    println("Error reading the file: " + ex);
```

## Try/Catch

To execute code that might throw an exception, you must enclose it in a try/catch statement.

```
If something
                                         fails up here...
try {
    Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("data.txt"));
    while (input.hasNextLine()) {
           String line = input.nextLine();
           println(line);
} catch (FileNotFoundException ex) {
    println("Error reading the file: " + ex);
                                        ... we immediately
                                         jump down here.
```

## File Reading Overview

- 1. Make a Scanner to open a file to read
- 2. Use Scanner methods such as nextLine or next to read in the file, usually in a loop
- 3. Scanner operations on files are "dangerous", so we need to use a try/catch block
- 4. Close the Scanner when you are done

## Scanner exceptions

- NoSuchElementException
  - You read past the end of the input.
- InputMismatchException
  - You read the wrong type of token (e.g. read "hi" as an int).
- Finding and fixing these exceptions:
  - Read the exception text for line numbers in your code (the first line that mentions your file):

```
Exception in thread "main" java.util.InputMismatchException
   at java.util.Scanner.throwFor(Scanner.java:838)
   at java.util.Scanner.next(Scanner.java:1347)
   at MyProgram.readFile(MyProgram.java:39)
   at MyProgram.run(MyProgram.java:15)
```

# **Scanners on Strings**

A Scanner can tokenize the contents of a String:
 Scanner name = new Scanner(string);

– Example:

#### Scanners on Strings

 A Scanner can tokenize the contents of a String: Scanner name = new Scanner(string); You do not need a try/catch block, since this is not reading a file! – Example: String text = "15 3.2 hello 9 27.5"; Scanner scan = new Scanner(text); int num = scan.nextInt(); println(num); // 15 double num2 = scan.nextDouble(); println(num2); // 3.2 String word = scan.next(); println(word); // hello

#### Mixing lines and tokens

Input file input.txt:	Output to console:
The quick brown fox jumps over	Line has 6 words
the lazy dog.	Line has 3 words

```
// Counts the words on each line of a file
Scanner input = new Scanner(new File("input.txt"));
while (input.hasNextLine()) {
    Scanner tokens = new Scanner(input.nextLine());
    // process the contents of this line
    int count = 0;
    while (tokens.hasNext()) {
        String word = tokens.next();
        count++;
    }
    println("Line has " + count + " words");
}
...
```

#### Prompting for file name

```
// prompt for a file name in the res/ folder
String filename = readLine("Input file name? ");
File inputFile = new File("res", filename);
```

- To ensure that the file exists, you may want to re-prompt...
- Or the method **promptUserForFile** handles all of this:

```
// re-prompt for a file name in the res/ folder
String filename = promptUserForFile("Input? ", "res");
File inputFile = new File(filename);
```

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# **Throwing It All Together**

Write a program Election that reads a file of poll data.

Format: State Candidate1% Candidate2% ElectoralVotes Pollster

```
CT 56 31 7 Oct U. of Connecticut NE 37 56 5 Sep Rasmussen AZ 41 49 10 Oct Northern Arizona U. ...
```

- The program should print how many electoral votes each candidate has earned.
  - If they tie in a given region, don't give anybody those votes.

```
Input file? polls.txt
Candidate 1: 325 votes
Candidate 2: 213 votes
```

#### **Election solution**

```
String filename = promptUserForFile("Input file? ", "res");
try {
 Scanner input = new Scanner(new File(filename));
 int totalVotes1 = 0;
 int totalVotes2 = 0;
 Scanner tokens = new Scanner(input.nextLine());
   tokens.next();
                                  // skip state abbreviation
   int votes1 = tokens.nextInt();
   int votes2 = tokens.nextInt();
   int eVotes = tokens.nextInt();
   if (votes1 > votes2) {
       totalVotes1 += eVotes;
   } else if (votes2 > votes1) {
       totalVotes2 += eVotes;
 input.close();
 println("Candidate 1: " + totalVotes1 + " votes");
 println("Candidate 2: " + totalVotes2 + " votes");
} catch (IOException ex) {
 println("Error reading file: " + ex);
```

#### Recap

- Practice: Caesar Cipher
- File Processing
- Try-Catch
- Practice: Election Results

#### **Next time: Graphics programs**