What is Experiment Driven Development?

Why is it most useful in statically typed languages?

Getting the hang of APIs or exploring module integration using an interactive session with the interpreter. This should come prior to writing tests and code.

Writing tests may be premature in a statically typed languages until you have experimented with the type signatures you will use.

How can one create a companion object in the REPL?

Put both the class and its companion inside some wrapper

object.

What sorts of things are inexpressible in the REPL?

Certain aspects of coding with packages and visibility modifiers.

What's a shorthand for AnyRef.hashCode?

AnyRef.##

What's a good strategy for interacting with Java code that may return null?

Pass the possibly null reference to the Option factory method. It will return None or Some as appropriate, which can be pattern matched against.

What strategy can be used to minimize unnecessary pattern matching on Option?

Treating Option as a collection, using for expressions and methods like foreach, map, and filter.

What is the scala. Equals trait for?

Enforcing the existence of the <code>canEquals</code> method correct implementations of <code>equals</code> in polymorphic classes require.