

Practice Problems Week 3

Files, Strings, Exceptions

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COMP 1020
Introductory Computer Science 2



Predict Output - Section Overview

- The following questions present code snippets (sometimes with poor style).
- Your goal is to determine the exact output printed to the console.
- Pay attention to:
 - String immutability and the String Pool.
 - Exception propagation and control flow (try/catch/finally).
 - References vs Value comparison.



Problem 1: String Pools

```
String s1 = "Java";
String s2 = "Java";
String s3 = new String("Java");
String s4 = "Ja" + "va";

System.out.println((s1 == s2) + " " + s1.
    equals(s2));           ↗ String objects
System.out.println((s1 == s3) + " " + s1.
    equals(s3));           ↗ String pool
System.out.println((s1 == s4));
```

equals : compare the sequence of character

== : compare the reference

Predict the output.

true true

false true

true



Problem 2: Immutability

```
String s = "Hello";  
s.concat(" World"); // concat(): nối chuỗi  
s.toUpperCase(); // HELLO WORLD  
String t = s.substring(0, 2);
```

```
System.out.println(s); → Hello  
System.out.println(t); → Hel
```

Predict the output.

String là immutable (không thể sửa trực tiếp)

concat() và toUpperCase() không thay đổi s

Nếu muốn đổi s ta phải gán lại một biến khác:

s₁ = s.concat(" world");

s₂ = s.toUpperCase();



Problem 3: Exception Flow 1

```
try {
    System.out.print("A");
    String s = null;
    System.out.print(s.length());
    System.out.print("B");
} catch (ArithmetricException e) {
    System.out.print("C");
} catch (NullPointerException e) {
    System.out.print("D");
} finally {
    System.out.print("E");
}
System.out.print("F");
```

Predict the output.

ADEF



Problem 4: Exception Flow 2

```
try {
    System.out.print("1");
    int x = 5 / 0;
    System.out.print("2");
} catch (RuntimeException e) {
    System.out.print("3");
} catch (ArithmetricException e) { // Compile
    Note
    System.out.print("4");
} finally {
    System.out.print("5");
}
```

1 4 5

Predict the output / behavior.
(Hint: Look closely at the catch block order)



Problem 5: String Methods

```
String data = " A,B, C ";
String[] parts = data.trim().split(",");
System.out.print(parts.length + ":"); → 3
for(String p : parts) {
    System.out.print("[" + p + "]");
} → [A]
                           [B]
                           [C]
                           t Space
```

Predict the output.



Problem 6: Exception Flow 3

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    try {  
        methodA();  
    } catch (Exception e) {  
        System.out.println("Main Catch");  
    }  
}  
  
public static void methodA() {  
    try {  
        throw new RuntimeException();  
    } finally {  
        System.out.print("FinallyA ");  
    }  
}
```

Predict the output.

Output: FinallyA Main Catch



Problem 7: Scanner Tokens

```
// Input String: "10 20 Hello 30"
Scanner sc = new Scanner("10 20 Hello 30");
int sum = 0;
while (sc.hasNextInt()) {           ↳ rõ ràng là
    sum += sc.nextInt();           đọc tới khi ko có số
}                                     nguyên tiếp theo
    0 += 10
    10 += 20 → 30
System.out.println(sum + " " + sc.next());
```

Output: 30 Hello

Predict the output.



Problem 8: IndexOf and Substring

```
String s = "banana";
int idx = s.indexOf('a'); → position of 1st 'a'
int last = s.lastIndexOf('a'); → position of the last 'a' Predict the output.
System.out.println(idx + " " + last);
System.out.println(s.substring(idx, last)); → anan
```

Output: 1 5
anan



Problem 9: Pass by Value (Strings)

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    String s = "Start";
    modify(s);
    System.out.println(s);
}
public static void modify(String str) {
    str = str + "End";
}
```

Predict the output.

Output: Start → 'S' is immutable



Problem 10: Scanner Delimiter

```
// Input: "apple,banana,cherry"
Scanner sc = new Scanner("apple,banana,
    cherry");
sc.useDelimiter(",");
while(sc.hasNext()) {
    System.out.print(sc.next().charAt(0));
}
```

Output: abc

Predict the output.



Fill In Code - Section Overview

- Complete the missing segments _____ to solve the problem.
- Follow strict Programming Standards (constants, spacing, variable names).



Problem 11: Safe Division

Task: Implement a method to divide two numbers, returning 0 on error.

```
public static int safeDivide(int top, int bottom) {  
    int result = 0;  
  
    // Fill in the try-catch block  
    try {  
        result = top / bottom;  
    } catch (ArithmaticException e) {  
        System.out.println("Cannot divide by zero.");  
    }  
  
    return result;  
}
```



Problem 12: File Setup

Task: Setup a Scanner to read from "data.txt". Handle the checked exception.

```
public static void processFile() {  
    Scanner fileReader = null;  
  
    try {  
        // Initialize Scanner for file "data.txt"  
        fileReader = new Scanner(new File("data.txt"));  
  
    } catch (FileNotFoundException e) {  
        System.out.println("File missing.");  
    }  
    // ... use scanner  
}
```



Problem 13: Reading All Lines

Task: Print every line in the file.

```
// Assume 'sc' is a valid Scanner
while (_sc.hasNextLine()_____) {
    String currentLine = _sc.nextLine()_____;
    System.out.println(currentLine);
}
```



Problem 14: Parsing CSV Line

Task: Given a line "Name,Age,Grade", extract the age (2nd item).

```
String line = "Alice,20,A";
// Split into array
String[] tokens = line.split(",");
// Parse the integer Age
int age = Integer.parseInt(tokens[1]);
```



Problem 15: Clean Up Resources

Task: Ensure the Scanner closes even if an exception occurs.

```
Scanner sc = null;
try {
    sc = new Scanner(new File("test.txt"));
    // ... work ...
} catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
    System.out.println("Error");
} finally {
    if (sc != null) {
        sc.close(); // Close it
    }
}
```



Problem 16: Validating Int Input

Task: Read an integer from user; if not an int, discard token and retry.

```
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
System.out.print("Enter age: ");

while (!console.hasNextInt()) { // Check ONLY if next is int
    String trash = console.next(); // Discard bad input
    System.out.print("Invalid. Enter age: ");
}

int age = console.nextInt(); // Read the valid int
```



Problem 17: String Equality

Task: Check if input command is "QUIT" (case-insensitive).

```
final String STOP_CMD = "QUIT";
String input = getCommand();

// Check equality ignoring case
if (input.equalsIgnoreCase(STOP_CMD)) {
    System.out.println("Exiting...");
}
```



Problem 18: Char At Index

Task: Print the first and last character of a non-empty string 'str'.

```
char first = str.charAt(0);  
// Get last index based on length  
char last = str.charAt(str.length() - 1);  
  
System.out.println(first + " " + last);
```



Problem 19: Summing Doubles from String

Task: Sum numbers in string data "1.5 2.5 3.5".

```
String data = "1.5 2.5 3.5";
Scanner stringScan = new Scanner(data); // Read from String
double sum = 0.0;

while (stringScan.hasNextDouble()) {
    sum += stringScan.nextDouble();
}
```



Problem 20: Manual String Copy

Task: Manually copy characters from string 'src' to char array 'dest'.

```
String src = "Hello";
char[] dest = new char[src.length()];

for (int i = 0; i < src.length(); i++) {
    // Get char at i and assign to array
    dest[i] = src.charAt(i);
}
```



Long Form - Section Overview

- Write complete classes or methods to solve these problems.
- Adhere strictly to the Style Guide:
 - Class structure(Constants -> Vars -> Constructors -> Methods).
 - No magic numbers.
 - Proper naming conventions.
 - Meaningful comments for logic.



Problem 21: File Line Counter

Write a complete program 'LineCounter' that:

- ① Defines a constant for the filename "input.txt".
- ② Opens the file using a Scanner.
- ③ Counts how many lines are in the file.
- ④ Prints "Count: X" to the console.
- ⑤ Handles `FileNotFoundException` by printing "File missing".
- ⑥ Ensures the Scanner is closed.



Problem 22: String Reverse

Write a static method ‘public static String reverse(String input)‘ that:

- 1 Takes a String as a parameter.
- 2 Returns a new String with characters in reverse order.
- 3 Uses a standard ‘for‘ loop to build the result (using concatenation or StringBuilder).
- 4 Handles null input by returning null.

Style Requirement: Do not modify the loop variable inside the loop body.



Problem 23: CSV Parser

Write a method 'processStudentData' that reads student grades from a file.

- Input Format: "Name,Grade" (e.g., "John,85").
- Read line by line.
- Split each line by comma.
- If Grade > 50, print "Name passed".
- Use 'Integer.parseInt' to convert the grade.
- Must use a constant for the PASS_CUTOFF (50).



Problem 24: Valid Input Loop

Write a method 'getPositiveInt' that:

- 1 Takes a Scanner (tied to System.in) as a parameter.
- 2 Prompts the user "Enter positive number: ".
- 3 Loops until the user enters a valid integer AND it is > 0 .
- 4 If input is not an integer, discard it and print "Not a number".
- 5 If input is ≤ 0 , print "Must be positive".
- 6 Returns the valid positive integer.



Problem 25: Palindrome Checker

Write a method 'isPalindrome' that checks if a string is the same forwards and backwards.

- Ignore Case (treat 'A' and 'a' as same).
- Use 'charAt' to compare characters from both ends moving inward.
- Return boolean 'true' or 'false'.
- Use meaningful variable names (e.g., 'leftIndex', 'rightIndex').



Problem 26: Max In File

Write a complete program 'MaxFinder'.

- File "numbers.txt" contains one integer per line.
- Read all numbers.
- Find and print the maximum value found.
- If file is empty, print "No data".
- Handle exceptions appropriately.
- Use 'Integer.MIN_VALUE' to initialize your max tracker if needed.



Problem 27: Name Formatter

Write a method 'formatName' that:

- Input: String 'fullName' (e.g. " jOhN dOE ").
- Trims whitespace.
- Converts the entire string to Lower Case.
- Capitalizes the first letter of each word (assume space delimiter).
- Returns the formatted string (e.g. "John Doe").
- You may use 'split(" ")' and string concatenation.



Problem 28: Word Search

Write a method ‘containsWord’.

- Parameters: String ‘text’, String ‘keyword’.
- Returns ‘true’ if ‘keyword’ exists in ‘text’ (Case Insensitive).
- Do NOT use ‘text.contains()’. Use ‘indexOf()’ logic manually or looped substring checking if you want a challenge, OR simply use ‘text.toLowerCase().indexOf(...’.
- Ensure ‘null’ checks for both strings at the start (return false if either is null).



Problem 29: File Copy

Write a program that copies "source.txt" to "dest.txt".

- ① Open 'source.txt' for reading ('Scanner').
- ② Open 'dest.txt' for writing ('PrintWriter').
- ③ Loop through source line by line.
- ④ Write each line to 'dest.txt' using 'println'.
- ⑤ Close both resources in a finally block (or try-with-resources if taught, but standard finally is safer for manual practice).
- ⑥ Handle 'FileNotFoundException'.



Problem 30: Average from String

Write a method 'calculateAverage' that constructs an average from a formatted string.

- Input: String line = "ID:1234 Marks:80,90,100";
- Extract the part after "Marks:".
- Split by comma to get individual marks.
- Parse each mark to double.
- Calculate and return average.
- Avoid magic numbers (e.g. define prefix "Marks:").

