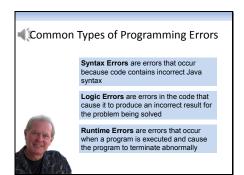


In this lecture you will learn about three basic types of programming errors.

2



There are three common types of programming errors experienced by Java programmers...syntax errors, logic errors, and runtime errors.

Syntax errors are errors that occur because the code contains incorrect Java syntax. Examples of syntax errors include writing a programming statement that does not follow Java rules...or...perhaps referencing a Java class that does not exist.

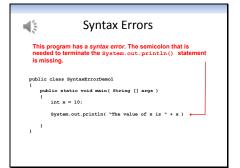
If a program has a syntax error it will not compile and therefore will not be able to be executed until the syntax error is corrected.

Logic errors are errors in the code that cause the program to produce an incorrect result for the problem it is supposed to solve. The program runs and terminates normally but the results are not correct. An example of a logic error might be coding an incorrect formula for a computation.

Runtime errors are errors that occur when a program is executed and which cause a program to terminate abnormally.

Runtime errors often occur because the programmer didn't anticipate and check for specific conditions.

An example of a runtime error would be a programming statement that divided an expression by a number that had a zero value.

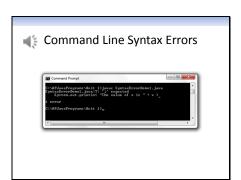


This program has a syntax error...can you find it? (pause)

The semicolon is missing from the System.out.println() statement.

Let's see what happens when we try to compile the program.



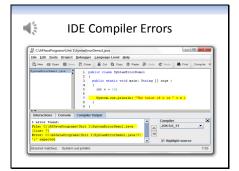


I went ahead and compiled the program from the command line...and this was the resulting output.

Notice that the error message explained that there was a syntax error and also provided the line number that it thinks the error is located on, as well as a display of the programming statement and where it thinks the error is located on that statement.

Now...syntax errors won't always be this clear...but they will at least give you a good hint about what the problem appears to be.

In order to fix this problem we have to back to our source code, find line 7, and provide the correct syntax.



Here's what happens when I compile the program using the DrJava IDE.

Notice how the DrJava tool gives a description of the error as well as highlights the actual programming statement where the error occurs. This makes it a lot easier to find and correct the syntax error...compared to compiling from the command line.

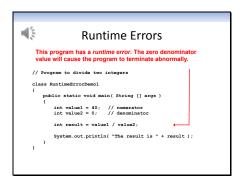
6

This program contains a logic error...can you find it??

The logic error is that the formula for computing the perimeter is incorrect. The formula takes the sum of only three of the four sides. The correct formula would be to sum all four sides.

This program would certainly run...and produce an output...but the output would be incorrect.

7



This program contains a runtime error.

The value of the denominator is zero...and dividing something by zero will cause a program to terminate abnormally.



If we compile the program used in the last example...it will compile correctly.

The problem...that is...the runtime error...occurs when we execute the program as can be seen here.

Because of the runtime error the program terminates abnormally.

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```
Exercise

Compile the program below either from the command line or from an IDE. Fix any errors you encounter and recompile.

// This program computes the area of a right triangle // area = height * base / 2

public class TriangleExercise {
    public static void main(string [] args ) {
        int base = 10;
        int height = 20;
        int area = height * base;
        System.out.println("The area is " + area )
    }
}
```

At this point I'd like you to do a short exercise.

I'd like you to compile this program either from the command line or from an IDE and examine the result.

If you find any errors, please fix them so that the program compiles and runs correctly.

Please pause this lecture now...and resume it once you have completed the exercise.

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```
Sample Solution

There were 2 errors in the original program...a syntax error and a logic error.

// This program computes the area of a right triangle // area = height * hase / 2 public class triangleExercise {
    public static void main( String [] args ) {
        int base = 10;
        int base = 10;
        int height = 20;
        int area = height * hase / 2;
        System.out.println( "The area is " + area );
    }
}
```

Hopefully, you found that the original program had two errors.

There was one syntax error...the semicolon for the System.out.println() method call was missing...and there was one logic error...the formula for the area was programmed incorrectly.