Quiz Group 10 (C. Hash, K. Marino, K. Root, E. Rouse)

CS161 – Assignment #4/Quiz #7

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# Q1: In your own words, describe what each of the three statements below does, and provide detailed examples of how and when you would use each statement.

# break;

breaks out of a loop, or by use of a label, out of a nested loop. I would use this statement when I want to stop a while or for loop from continue, either because the desired result is reached or because an error was detected.

Here is a pseudo example:

While(true)  
 do first thing;  
 do next thing;  
 if (error) break;

# return;

returns a value from a method. I would use this when the method has completed its task and I want it to send the value to the method call.

Here is a pseudo example:

private static void theAnswer(){  
 return 42;  
}

# System.exit(0);

This is the termination code for the Java Virtual Machine. (Source: <http://docs.oracle.com/javase/1.5.0/docs/api/java/lang/System.html>). The argument of the expression is a code. 0, by convention is normal exit. Other numbers could be used for abnormal exit. I would use this to exit the program, to shut it down completely.

Pseudo example:

Class{  
//lots of stuff happens, then we are done  
if(noError) System.exit(0);  
else System.exit(1);