SR 2.1 What is a string literal?

A string literal is a sequence of characters delimited by double quotes.

SR 2.9 What is a variable declaration?

A variable declaration establishes the name of a variable and the type of data that it can contain. A declaration may also have an optional initialization, which gives the variable an initial value.

SR 2.14 What is primitive data? How are primitive data types different from objects?

Primitive data are basic values such as numbers or characters. Objects are more complex entities that usually contain primitive data that help define them.

SR 2.19 What is a character set?

A character set is a list of characters in a particular order. A character set defines the valid characters that a particular type of computer or programming language will support. Java uses the Unicode character set.

SR 2.31 Why are widening conversions safer than narrowing conversions?

A widening conversion tends to go from a small data value, in terms of the amount of space used to store it, to a larger one. A narrowing conversion does the opposite. Information is more likely to be lost in a narrowing conversion, which is why narrowing conversions are considered to be less safe than widening ones.

SR 3.1 What is a null reference?

A null reference is a reference that does not refer to any object. The reserved word null can be used to check for null references before following them.

SR 3.2 What does the new operator accomplish?

The new operator creates a new instance (an object) of the specified class. The constructor of the class is then invoked to help set up the newly created object.

SR 3.5 What is an alias? How does it relate to garbage collection?

Two references are aliases of each other if they refer to the same object. Changing the state of the object through one reference changes it for the other because there is actually only one object. An object is marked for garbage collection only when there are no valid references to it.

SR 3.10 What is a Java package?

A Java package is a collection of related classes. The Java standard class library is a group of packages that support common programming tasks.

SR 3.14 What does an import statement accomplish?

An import statement establishes the fact that a program uses a particular class, specifying what package that class is a part of. This allows the programmer to use the class name (such as Random) without having to fully qualify the reference (such as java.util.Random) every time.

SR 3.20 What is a class method (also called a static method)?

A class or static method can be invoked through the name of the class that contains it, such as Math.abs. If a method is not static, it can be executed only through an instance (an object) of the class.