During flow control in Ruby, every expression evaluates to true except for false and nil.

ARRAYS

The map method iterates over an array applying a block to each element of the array and returns a new array with those results. The irb session below shows how to use map to get the square of all numbers in an array. The collectmethod is an alias to map - they do the same thing.

You'll notice that after performing these methods there is no change to the initial array. These methods are not destructive (i.e., they don't mutate the caller). How do you know which methods mutate the caller and which ones don't? You have to use the methods and pay attention to the output in irb; that is, you have to memorize or know through using it.

The delete\_at method can be helpful if you'd like to eliminate the value at a certain index from your array. You'll want to be careful with this one, because it modifies your array destructively. Once you call this method, you are changing your array permanently.

As a side note, sometimes you will know the value that you want to delete, but not the index. In these situations you will want to use the delete method. Thedelete method permanently deletes all instances of the provided value from the array.

Another way to remember these methods: use each for iteration and map for transformation.

Files:

Always close open files. Open files continue to occupy space in memory.

* r: read-only (starts at beginning of file)
* w: write-only (if the file exists, **overwrites** everything in the file)
* w+: read and write (if the file exists, **overwrites** everything in the file)
* a+: read-write (if file exists, starts at end of file. Otherwise creates a new file). Suitable for updating files.

Ruby will automatically close a file if open method is called with a block.