CSCI-C 212 Midterm Exam Fall 2025 (80 points)
Oct 8, 2025

C212 Midterm Exam Rubric

1. (20 points) You're writing a method that computes the score of a two-part exam that you have written. The exam contains a multiple-choice section and an essay section. Here's what you should do:

   Design the `double scoreExam(int c, int t, String e, double a, boolean g)` method that receives the number of multiple-choice questions the student got correct c, the number of multiple-choice questions on the exam t, the essay response e, the class average as a ratio a (i.e., $0 \leq a \leq 1$), and whether the student is a graduate student g. It returns a student's grade on the exam, as a ratio, based on the following criteria:

   (i) The student's raw score r is the ratio of the number of questions they got correct c and the total number of questions t. You may assume $c \leq t$.

   (ii) If the `essay` e either starts or ends with `"chicken nugget"`, award 0.1 extra points to r.

   (iii) If the `essay` e does *not* contain `"forty-two"` anywhere, then subtract 0.2 points from r.

   (iv) If the score, after applying the preceding rules, is above or equal to the class average a, then add 0.05 to r. For example, if their current score is $r = 8/10 = .80$ and the class average is 0.42, then their score becomes 0.85.

   (v) If the student is a graduate student g, then if their score after applying the above rules is less than a 70%, they automatically receive a 0.

   (vi) The score is clamped to between 0 and 1, inclusive.

   In designing this method, follow the design recipe from class: write the signature, purpose statement, testing, and *then* do the implementation. You should probably use simple numbers for the inputs so you can calculate the values in your head. You may assume that all inputs are well-formed.

   For testing, write TWO different tests that test TWO distinct conditions.

   The skeleton code is on the next page. You must fill in the Java documentation comment, the tests, and the method to receive full credit.

Rubric:

- *(1 pt)* Two tests exist that at least call the method. Each is worth 0.5 point.
- *(4 pts)* Two correct tests exist. Each is worth 2 points.
- *(2 pts)* The purpose statement for `scoreExam` exists and is correct/coherent.
- *(3 pts)* Each annotation is populated and is correct. Each annotation is worth 0.5 point.
- *(2 pts)* The ratio r is correctly computed. This point is not earned if *only* integer division is used.
- *(2 pts)* The check and consequent for e starting or ending with `"chicken nugget"` is correct. This is all-or-nothing.
- *(1 pt)* The check and consequent for e not containing `"forty-two"` is correct. This is all or nothing.
- *(1 pt)* The check and consequent for $r \geq a$ is correct. This is all or nothing.
- *(2 pts)* The check and consequent for being a graduate student and $r < 0.7$ is correct. This is all or nothing.
- *(2 pts)* The score is clamped from above and below (1 point each).

```
/* Tests and javadocs are omitted for brevity. */

class ScoreExam {

  static double scoreExam(int c, int t, String e, double a, boolean g) {
    double r = (double) c / t;
    if (e.startsWith("chicken nugget") || e.endsWith("chicken nugget")) {
      r += 0.1;
    }
    if (!e.contains("forty-two")) { r -= 0.2; }
    if (r >= a) { r += 0.05; }
    if (g && r < 0.7) {
      return 0;
    } else {
      return Math.max(0, Math.min(r, 1));
    }
}
```

2. (30 points) This question has three parts, with each part weighted equally.

   (a) Design the *standard recursive* `String construct(String A, String B, int[] l)` method that, when given two strings A and B and an array of integers l, returns a new string that is the concatenation the characters from alternating between A and B, but selected by the elements of l.

   For example, consider $A =$ `"hi"` and $B =$ `"hey"` and $l = [0, 2, 1, 1, 0]$. The returned string would be `"hyieh"`, because we start from A and get the character at index 0, which is `'h'`. Then we move to B and get the character at index 2, which is `'y'`. We then move back to A and get the character at index 1, which is `'i'`. We then move back to B and get the character at index 1, which is `'e'`. We then finally move back to A again and get the character at index 0, which is `'h'`.

   You may assume that all of the entries of l are valid indices into the strings and that $|l| = |A|+|B|$. (That is, the length of l is equal to the sum of the lengths of A and B.) Moreover, you may assume that each character is used exactly once. (This property doesn't matter for the context of the problem, but maybe it'll help you reason through the question.)

   Hint: design a standard recursive helper method!

   Rubric:

   - *(1 pt)* Helper method is private.
   - *(3 pts)* Base case condition is correct.
   - *(3 pts)* Branch for selecting character from `A` is correct.
   - *(3 pts)* Branch for selecting character from `B` is correct.

   Note: if the method is not standard recursive, no points are awarded.

```java
static String construct(String A, String B, int[] l) {
  return constructHelper(A, B, l, 0);
}

private static String construct(String A, String B, int[] l,
                                int i) {
  if (i >= l.length) {
    return acc;
  } else {
    if (i % 2 == 0) {
      return A.charAt(l[i]) + construct(A, B, l, i + 1);
    } else {
      return B.charAt(l[i]) + construct(A, B, l, i + 1);
    }
  }
}
```

(b) Design the `String constructTR(String A, String B, int[] l)` method that uses tail recursion to solve the problem. You will need to design a helper method. Remember to include the relevant access modifiers!

Rubric:

- *(1 pt)* Driver method correctly initializes all variables.
- *(1 pt)* Helper method is private.
- *(2 pts)* Base case condition is correct.
- *(3 pts)* Branch for selecting character from `A` is correct.
- *(3 pts)* Branch for selecting character from `B` is correct.

Note: if the method is not tail recursive, no points are awarded.

```
static String constructTR(String A, String B, int[] l) {
  return constructTRHelper(A, B, l, 0, "");
}

private static String constructTR(String A, String B, int[] l,
                                  int i, String acc) {
  if (i >= l.length) {
    return acc;
  } else {
    if (i % 2 == 0) {
      return constructTR(A, B, l, i + 1, acc + A.charAt(l[i]));
    } else {
      return constructTR(A, B, l, i + 1, acc + B.charAt(l[i]));
    }
  }
}
```

(c) Finally, design the `String constructLoop(String A, String B, int[] l)` method that uses a loop to solve the problem.

Rubric:

- *(2 pts)* Local variable(s) are declared correctly for accumulating the string.
- *(3 pts)* Loop condition is correct.
- *(2 pts)* Branch for selecting character from `A` is correct.
- *(2 pts)* Branch for selecting character from `B` is correct.
- *(1 pt)* Correct value is returned.

Note: if the method is recursive at all, no points are awarded.

```
static String constructLoop(String A, String B, int[] l) {
  int i = 0;
  String acc = "";
  while (!(i >= l.length)) {
    if (i % 2 == 0) {
      acc = acc + A.charAt(l[i]);
      i = i + 1;
    } else {
      acc = acc + B.charAt(l[i]);
      i = i + 1;
    }
  }
  return acc;
}
```

3. (30 points) Design the `static <V> Set<V> process(List<String> l, Map<String, V> M)` method that, when given a list of strings l and a map of strings to values of type V called M, returns an insertion-ordered set of the values from M via the following property: For every string *str* in l, if there exists a key in M that starts with *str* or *str* is lexicographically less than some key in M, retrieve its value and add it to a set S.

   Let's see an example. Consider the following inputs to `process`: $l =$`["hi", "howdy", "yo"]` and $M = \langle$`"hi there" : 42, "what's up" : 5`$\rangle$. For every string *str* in l, we check to see if there's a key in M that either starts with *str* or *str* is lexicographically less than it. The first string `"hi there"` starts with `"hi"`, so we return its value of 42 and add it to a set. The second string `"howdy"` is lexicographically less than `"what's up"`, so we return its value of 5 and add it to the set. The third string `"yo"` is not the start of any key nor is it lexicographically less than any key, so nothing happens. The returned set is $\{42, 5\}$.

   If there are multiple keys that satisfy some string in l, then it does not matter which is used.[1]

   The skeleton code is below. You do not need to write tests, but doing so may help you in your design.

   Rubric:

   - Each blank is worth 2.5 points except for the `LinkedHashMap` creation. That blank is worth 5 points and is all or nothing.

```
static <V> Set<V> process(List<String> l, Map<String, V> M) {
  Set<V> resSet = new LinkedHashSet<>();
  Set<String> keys = M.keySet();
  for (String s : l) {
    for (String keyInSet : keys) {
      if (keyInSet.startsWith(s) || s.compareTo(keyInSet) < 0) {
        resSet.add(M.get(keyInSet));
      }
    }
  }
  return resSet;
}
```

[1] If you want, assume that M is instantiated as a `LinkedHashMap`.

Scratch work