CSC320 Discussion Forum 3

Hello all,

In Java the three selection structures are the if statement, if, else statement, and the switch statement.

The if statement is used to check against any functions, similar to a boolean action, in a true or false way. When the function reaches the if statement, it’s checked against the argument and if it passes the rest of the code executes, if not the function continues. This would be used for executing when an isolated condition or statement needs to be checked for. An example could be checking for a single ingredient in a food item, this example would be used to avoid a food allergy. The argument would be the food allergen in question, where the function would execute a warning statement if found, otherwise it would be passed.

An if, else statement is very similar to the if statement, except it checks against two different conditions. The difference here being that the else condition will always be executed given the if condition is not met. In this way a user would have the ability to check for two separate arguments and execute an action after one or the other is met. An example of this could be checking for sunny weather or not. If it’s sunny, the statement could execute a print statement, then if it’s not it would execute the else statement for anytime it’s not sunny.

Finally, the switch statement. Coming into this class with some Python 3 experience, the if, else statement and switch statement confused me at first glance. The switch statement in Java is the selection structure used to capture three or more conditions that could be met. In a similar fashion to the if, else statement, the switch statement will check against each condition in the structure until one is met. Typically the structure is stopped by using a break statement after the condition, however the structure can also stop itself under certain conditions.