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Analysis Document – Assignment 2

1. There was never a time during this assignment that I felt I would have been better suited had I a partner to analyze and share opinions and ideas with. I believe that this assignment is simple enough, given that the student undertaking it has had prior experience with Java Programming, that a partner would provide an unnecessary level of commitment. Difficulties and questions I encountered while working on this assignment led me to make us of the T.A. help hours, which I found were more than sufficient to assist me in completing and correcting my code.

2. Comparable and Comparator are not that different from each other; both are ways of comparing two objects. The difference is how they compare their respective objects. Comparable is generally used for "natural ordering", or ordering according to how it would generally be seen as natural; while comparator is used when you wish to compare two objects based upon your own ordering. An example of this is comparing strings; if you simply wish to compare them alphabetically, you would use comparable, but if you wanted to compare them based upon their lengths, you would write your own comparator to perform that function.

   It would have not been possible to use comparable in the extra features in LibraryGeneric because comparable cannot be used for Generics.

3. I will admit I took the amount of work required for this assignment for granted, given its seeming simplicity. I began working on it too late, and was forced to rush through, allowing sub-par and non-thoroughly tested code to be submitted. I can improve on this by starting on these assignments far earlier than I began this one.

4. Writing generic code is important because is allows the re-use of code with different inputs. Generics are important because they have a stronger type check at compile time, they eliminate casts, and enable programmers to implement generic algorithms.

5. Somewhere around 12 hours.