

Lab 1

Goals for this Lab

1. Write a program that, when given to two files, replaces defined placeholders in one file with the values provided in the other file and write the filled letter to a third file.

Task Description

Your goal for this lab is to use regular expressions to replace placeholder variables in a form letter with the placeholders defined values. You are being given a very simple sample set of two files; letter.txt which is an example form letter, and vars.txt which is an example variable file.

Using command line arguments, your program must accept three arguments. The first argument will be the form letter, the second argument will be the variable file, and the third argument will be the name of the file that you will write your output to.

An example form letter might look like this;

```
Hello $toName,  
    I am $myName, and I am looking to send you $send.  
Thanks,  
$myName
```

The corresponding variable might look like this;

```
$myName Bob  
$toName James  
$send $100,000
```

The resulting substitution would then look like this;

```
Hello James,  
    I am Bob, and I am looking to send you $100,000.  
Thanks,  
Bob
```

Requirements

1. Your program must accept three (3) command line arguments; form file, variable file, output file.
2. Your program must replace the variables in the form letter that are defined in the variable file with their defined values.
3. The replaced strings must then be written to the output file.
4. You may use regular expression tools that exist in java to assist you.

Testing

This lab will be manually tested. Provided is a simple example, it matches what is shown above. Please make sure to test your code with more complex test cases.