AP Computer Science – Summer Work Summer 2008

Greeting gentlemen. I hope your summer is treating you well.

In this class, we’re going to cover the AB curriculum, which means we’ll be learning a LOT. Most of the people taking the AB exam in May have already had a year of computer science under their belts. Never fear, though! With just a little summer work we will be right on track.

Almost all of our homework will be writing programs, so it helps to have a computer at home. Let me know if you do not have one.

The first step is to get yourself the program we’ll use to write our code. There are many out there, but we’ll be using Eclipse, which is a free, multiplatform piece of software.

As with much of programming, things don’t always go according to plan. So if you have any trouble with these installations, figure it out youself. I can’t tell you how many coding problems I’ve found solutions to using Google.

First, get the Java Runtime Environment (JRE)

1) You probably already have a JRE installed if you’re running a Windows machine. You can check by going into c:\Program Files\Java\ and make sure you have jre1.5 or higher

a. If you don’t have a JRE, or it’s out of date, download it from Java’s download page, which you can find by Googling “jre download”

2) If you are running Mac OS X, you already have a JRE installed on your machine.

Then, install Eclipse

1) Google “eclipse download” to go to Eclipse’s download page.

2) Download “Eclipse Classic 3.4” and extract it to wherever you want (for Windows machines, probably the “c:\Program Files\” folder; for OS X, the “Applications” folder)

3) To run Eclipse, just run the “eclipse.exe.” (no other installation necessary)

4) You may want to make a shortcut to the executable on your desktop or some other convenient place

5) When you open Eclipse, it will ask you to specify a workspace location. I suggest creating a folder somewhere called “Java,” where you’ll store your projects.

Once you’ve got Eclipse up and running, it’s time to write your first program!

There are many good tutorials out there, so just Google “eclipse hello world.” Play around. Get a feel for the Eclipse environment and how it works.

On to the next page for your actual summer work 🡪

Textbook

We’ll be using Maria and Gary Litvin’s *Java Methods A & B: Object Oriented Programming and Data Structures* (Skylight Publishing, ISBN: 0-9727055-7-0)

Feel free to get this book from a bookstore, online, or from Landon’s page on www.mbsdirect.com.

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| Reading | Work (at the end of each chapter) |
| Chapter 1, Sections 1.1-1.7  (1.2-1.7 is annoyingly only online.  See www.skylit.com/javamethods) | 1-5, 8, 10-12, 14, 19-20 |
| Chapter 2, Sections 2.1-2.3, 2.5, 2.7 | 3, 4, 9, 11 |
| Chapter 5, Sections 5.1-5.5, 5.7 | 4, 7, 9, 10 |

This assignment is due **Sunday August 31st** by midnight. No work will be accepted after that date, so get it done early. You can either submit it electronically (via email) or hard copy (in my box outside the Science Office). For the questions where you have to write programs, either copy and paste your code into your electronic file or print it out and staple it to the rest of your homework.

This assignment will count for a major homework grade in the first quarter.

Feel free to email me if you have any questions: drausin\_wulsin@landon.net