

Post-Lab Write Up

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Lab: #3

1. Describe the process you went through to solve this problem (complete this lab)? 3 to 4 sentences should suffice.

We started by discussing the lab requirements and laid out a general idea of how we wanted to implement the code. We were confused by the optional method layout, so instead, we started coding everything in main, and once that worked, it was split into different methods. After the code was functioning, we made it more elegant by adding a do/while loop and used ASCII to make the switch case a single line.

2. What went well in this process?

When discussing how to write this code we were very quickly on the same page and could easily communicate the different ways we code.

3. What was challenging/difficult in this process?

The `.nextLine()` in a loop! We were having an issue with the `.nextLine()` not working, but only the second time it went through the loop. Apparently this is an issue with Java and the `.nextLine()` method, but it took us some head scratching and googling to figure this out.

4. Think about a particular challenge that you faced in this lab. What was this challenge? How did you work past that challenge and overcome it?

For the problem of figuring out why the `.nextLine()` was not working in the `do/while` loop we had to use some process of elimination. Once we tested that the loop was working properly, and all our spelling was correct, we took to google to see if anyone else had this problem. Turns out many others have and google AI had a nice explanation of why this was happening.

5. What will you do differently in the future to avoid/overcome these challenges?

A useful tool to utilize in the future would be the debugger. We brute forced our own system of tracking what was in the variable that stored the user input `String` with a series of `print.out` statements. Learning how the debugger works in visual studio code will be beneficial in the future.

6. What is something that you learned while working on this lab?

It was very educational to learn that coding languages are still evolving and not infallible. I assumed for quite a while that the issue with the `.nextLine()` was a mistake that I made as a beginning programmer. It didn't occur to me that this issue was built into the system until later.

7. How can what you learned in this lab be applied to the real world?

Ask questions and think outside of the box. First, we didn't just stop after we had a working code. We were able to make many improvements because we kept asking, there has to be a better way. Second, when we did run into issues it took thinking outside of the box (and some googling) to find the answer.

8. Are there any bugs in the code that you turned in? If so, what are they? Why did you not fix them? (e.g. lack of time, lack of knowledge, etc)

N/A