
Module 1: Beginning Student Language

CPSC 110

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- **Expression:** a value, primitive call, control structure; evaluates to a value
- **Primitive call, or “call to primitive”:** expression with an operator and operand(s)
 - (`<id> <expr>*`) where the number of `<expr>`s determines the number of arguments supplied to the function named by `<id>`.
 - Composed of a *function identifier* (a primitive) and one or more *expressions*
 - Evaluation: first reduce operands to values, then apply primitive to values
 - “*call to string/image/number primitive*”, based on parameter type
- **Function definition:** define with a function name so that it may be called
 - Returns value of the last expression
 - “*Racket programmers prefer to avoid side-effects, so a definition usually has just one expression in its body*” (2.2 Simple Definitions and Expressions)
- **Function call or “procedure application”:** call to a defined function
- **Predicate:** a primitive or function that takes an input and returns a boolean value