3.4 A parameter represents additional information that a method requires to perform its task. Each parameter required by a method is specified in the method's declaration. An argument is the actual value for a method parameter. When a method is called, the argument values are passed to the corresponding parameters of the method so that it can perform its task.

Exercises

- **3.5** (Keyword new) What's the purpose of keyword new? Explain what happens when you use it.
- **3.6** (*Default Constructors*) What is a default constructor? How are an object's instance variables initialized if a class has only a default constructor?
- **3.7** (*Instance Variables*) Explain the purpose of an instance variable.
- **3.8** (Using Classes without Importing Them) Most classes need to be imported before they can be used in an app. Why is every app allowed to use classes System and String without first importing them?
- **3.9** (Using a Class without Importing It) Explain how a program could use class Scanner without importing it.
- **3.10** (set and get Methods) Explain why a class might provide a set method and a get method for an instance variable.
- **3.11** (Modified Account Class) Modify class Account (Fig. 3.8) to provide a method called withdraw that withdraws money from an Account. Ensure that the withdrawal amount does not exceed the Account's balance. If it does, the balance should be left unchanged and the method should print a message indicating "Withdrawal amount exceeded account balance." Modify class AccountTest (Fig. 3.9) to test method withdraw.
- **3.12** (*Invoice Class*) Create a class called Invoice that a hardware store might use to represent an invoice for an item sold at the store. An Invoice should include four pieces of information as instance variables—a part number (type String), a part description (type String), a quantity of the item being purchased (type int) and a price per item (double). Your class should have a constructor that initializes the four instance variables. Provide a *set* and a *get* method for each instance variable. In addition, provide a method named getInvoiceAmount that calculates the invoice amount (i.e., multiplies the quantity by the price per item), then returns the amount as a double value. If the quantity is not positive, it should be set to 0.0. Write a test app named InvoiceTest that demonstrates class Invoice's capabilities.
- **3.13** (Employee Class) Create a class called Employee that includes three instance variables—a first name (type String), a last name (type String) and a monthly salary (double). Provide a constructor that initializes the three instance variables. Provide a set and a get method for each instance variable. If the monthly salary is not positive, do not set its value. Write a test app named EmployeeTest that demonstrates class Employee's capabilities. Create two Employee objects and display each object's yearly salary. Then give each Employee a 10% raise and display each Employee's yearly salary again.
- **3.14** (Date Class) Create a class called Date that includes three instance variables—a month (type int), a day (type int) and a year (type int). Provide a constructor that initializes the three instance variables and assumes that the values provided are correct. Provide a set and a get method for each instance variable. Provide a method displayDate that displays the month, day and year separated by forward slashes (/). Write a test app named DateTest that demonstrates class Date's capabilities.
- **3.15** (Removing Duplicated Code in Method main) In the AccountTest class of Fig. 3.9, method main contains six statements (lines 13–14, 15–16, 28–29, 30–31, 40–41 and 42–43) that each display an Account object's name and balance. Study these statements and you'll notice that they differ