CS2050

Homework #1

Professor: Cohen, Blanche

Student: Tyler Cooper

The beginning of this project was different from how I approached other projects and took a little to get used to but I now see the usefulness of not relying on the compiler to do all my checking for me as I used to just jump immediately into coding. Creating one section at a time and testing different login attempts helped to let me know where I had errors and where was correct. I created different test cases to test each of the methods individually and all at once. It made it very easy to run the program and see if it threw the correct error messages. This way of developing felt slow in the beginning and I was not a fan of the pace just due to my style in the past but in the end I was able to fix problems as they occurred instead of trying to fix multiple problems at once.

I feel semi prepared for this class, but the progression of this project has shown me that I need to start the projects sooner and study up on some java basics and refresh my knowledge of how OO programing is implemented because using the ‘.’ Operator is confusing to me. I feel I have used it all properly but that may not be the case when you look over the project and give feedback. I have needed some help from you because I do not know how to print to a file from java. I have not used any google searches. I have been pulling from some of my old programs that have had outside resources used to complete them but thus far that has been it.

I used the two test cases you provided in the handout for this packet and several others that I created to check all of the requirements and commented out the ones that were not in use. I have had a little background in testing like this but nothing worth noting. After creating the checkBadSpecial method, using the cases provided and ones I created, I found that I had implemented the way it was handed incorrectly because it wasn’t printing that it had found an invalid special character and I needed to alter the logic so that it would print the appropriate message.

One large setback was that I do not know how to print to a file. I checked all my old programs and couldn’t find any documentation on how to even start. I also did not start the project soon enough so it has come down to the wire and I have sent an email informing that I don’t believe I will be able to the project as per the project specification in the Late Projects section. With your reply with a link I will make a small program and print data to a file and familiarize myself with printing to a file and attempt to implement it into my project once I believe I have a solid understanding of it. One other problem I ran into was I didn’t read the packet until September 1st and realized that I had missed the due date for the test plan.

After sending you the email about not knowing how to print to a file I looked over the link you sent me at tutorialspoint and got an understanding of how to print to a file so created the addToReport method that passed all the text to a variable called report and passed that to the printToReport method. Using the link you sent me I created what I thought would pull all the previous data added to the login.txt file and add the new report to the end and then re print it to the file. I can’t figure out why it is only printing the last login and all the errors. It also doesn’t seem to recognize the \n to add a new line to the file.