

Review for FPP Final

The final exam will be a paper exam, without notes or access to a computer. It will cover Lessons 7 – 13. It will consist of information questions (50%) and programming questions (50%).

1. **Information Questions (T/F, Multiple Choice, Short Answer).** These will draw upon the following list of topics from Lessons 7-13.
 - a. *Recursion.* Be familiar with the following points:
 - What has to be true for a recursion to be a *valid* recursion?
 - Be able to implement (in code) a recursive strategy to solve a problem (as in Lab 7).
 - Know what it means to say that a recursive method is inefficient because it performs redundant computations, and what can be done to avoid this situation.
 - b. Be familiar with the different advantages and disadvantages of the different ADT's and implementations we have discussed in class: ArrayList, LinkedList, BST, Hashtable, Set.
 - c. Know the classes and interfaces involved in creating a user-defined Collection (like a List) in a way that can make use of Collections sorting and searching methods. Review when the List and Random access interfaces are (or should be) implemented and the reasons for using the class AbstractList. Be familiar with what you need to do to a list that you create so that it can work with the sort and search functions available in the Collections class.
 - d. Know how to use an Iterator object to iterate through the elements of a list. Know the difference between the Iterable and Iterator interfaces. Know the role of Iterator in the use of the for each construct. Be familiar with the new (as of Java 8) forEach method – both how to use it and where it is defined
 - e. Be familiar with the top level of the exceptions hierarchy provided in Java. Understand the difference between errors, unchecked exceptions, checked exceptions, and runtime exceptions. Know the most common examples of each type.
 - f. Understand the finally keyword and be able to think through the behavior of a code sample like the one given at the end of Lesson 12.
 - g. Know which background data structure is typically used to implement Array Lists, Linked Lists, Binary Search Trees, Hashtables, and Sets.
 - h. Understand how the hashCode function is used in a class to support the use of objects as keys in a hashtable. Understand how a hashtable transforms input

keys to hashcodes to hashvalues (and know the difference between these). Know why equal objects must have equal hashCodes and why it is *desirable* for unequal objects to have different hashCodes. Be familiar with best practices concerning the creation of a hashCode. Make sure you can write code to override hashCode in any class that you create.

- i. Given a sequence of ordered values (like integers or Strings), be able to follow the insertion rules to insert them into an initially empty BST.
- j. Be able to write the code for a LinkedList implementation. In particular, be sure that you are familiar with the technique for iterating from a top node (like a header) to some target node in the list. You may be asked to use Nodes to implement other data structures. *Note*: All doubly linked lists referred to in the exam will be *doubly linked lists with header*.
- k. Understand how each of the following types of data structures are designed and implemented (in a general way): array lists, linked lists, stacks, queues, hashtables, bsts, hashsets. Note that stacks and queues can be implemented in more than one way.
- l. Be able to explain why, for ordering objects, sometimes the Comparable interface is not enough.
- m. Be able to explain what it means for a Comparator to be consistent with equals, and why, generally speaking, Comparators *should be* consistent with equals. Be able to create your own Comparator so that it is consistent with equals and be able to use it in a call to Collections.sort.
- n. Know the 4 Steps for creating a connection and executing a query using JDBC (listed in the slides).

Code -- Working with JDBC

- Use Java's `DriverManager` to get a `Connection`; this step automatically registers the driver in the `DriverManager`. You must tell JDBC the database, username, and password, along with the driver information in the form of a *db url*.
- Use the `Connection` object to create a `PreparedStatement`, which is a wrapper for a SQL command
- Execute the `PreparedStatement` with either `executeQuery` or `executeUpdate`
- Reads (using `executeQuery`) will return a `ResultSet` which you use to read the data you requested in a usable form.

2. Not Covered on the Final

- a. Application of the new `forEach` method in the `Iterable` interface (you need to know that it is there, but you will not have to write code that uses it)
- b. File I/O
- c. JDBC coding (you need to know the steps, as listed above, but you will not write code that accesses a database)

3. Programming Questions. There will be two or three programming questions:

- a. *Implement a data structure.* You will be given the type of background data structure to use; you will use that background data structure to implement some or all of the main operations of the main data structure.
- b. *Solve a problem using recursion.* This problem will be similar to problems you did in Lab 7.
- c. *Introduce your own Exception class.* This problem will be similar to the exercises in Lab 12.

4. SCI. You will be asked to write a short essay to explain how one or more SCI principles are displayed in the realm of computer science. Richer content will be awarded more credit.