

Practice Quiz: Introduction to Programming

TOTAL POINTS 5

1. What's a computer program?

1 / 1 point

- ☐ A set of languages available in the computer
- ☐ A process for getting duplicate values removed from a list
- ☒ A list of instructions that the computer has to follow to reach a goal
- ☐ A file that gets copied to all machines in the network



Correct

You nailed it! At a basic level, a computer program is a recipe of instructions that tells your computer what to do.

2. What's the syntax of a language?

1 / 1 point

- ☒ The rules of how to express things in that language
- ☐ The subject of a sentence
- ☐ The difference between one language and another
- ☐ The meaning of the words



Correct

Right on! In a human language, syntax is the rules for how a sentence is constructed, and in a programming language, syntax is the rules for how each instruction is written.

3. What's the difference between a program and a script?

1 / 1 point

- ☒ There's not much difference, but scripts are usually simpler and shorter.
- ☐ Scripts are only written in Python.
- ☐ Scripts can only be used for simple tasks.

- ☐ Programs are written by software engineers; scripts are written by system administrators.

 **Correct**

You got it! The line between a program and a script is blurry; scripts usually have a shorter development cycle. This means that scripts are shorter, simpler, and can be written very quickly.

4. Which of these scenarios are good candidates for automation? Select all that apply.

1 / 1 point

- ☒ Generating a sales report, split by region and product type

 **Correct**

Excellent! Creating a report that presents stored data in specific ways is a tedious task that can be easily automated.

- ☐ Creating your own startup company

- ☐ Helping a user who's having network troubles

- ☒ Copying a file to all computers in a company

 **Correct**

Nice work! A task like copying files to other computers is easily automated, and helps to reduce unnecessary manual work.

- ☐ Interviewing a candidate for a job

- ☒ Sending personalized emails to subscribers of your website

 **Correct**

Great job! Sending out periodic emails is a time-consuming task that can be easily automated, and you won't have to worry about forgetting to do it on a regular basis.

- ☐ Investigating the root cause of a machine failing to boot

5. What are semantics when applied to programming code and pseudocode?

- ☐ The rules for how a programming instruction is written
- ☐ The difference in number values in one instance of a script compared to another
- ☒ The effect the programming instructions have
- ☐ The end result of a programming instruction



Correct

Nice job! Like human language, the intended meaning or effect of words, or in this case instructions, are referred to as semantics.