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[Course](#) > [Readings/Videos](#) > [Reading 6: Avoiding Debugging](#) > [Questions](#)

[Previous](#)         [Next](#) >

Questions

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variable scope

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Consider the following code (which is missing some variable declarations):

```
1 class Apartment {
2     Apartment(String newAddress) {
3         this.address = newAddress;
4         this.roommates = new HashSet<Person>();
5     }
6
7     String getAddress() {
8         return address;
9     }
10
11    void addRoommate(Person newRoommate) {
12        roommates.add(newRoommate);
13        if (roommates.size() > MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY) {
14            roommates.remove(newRoommate);
15            throw new TooManyPeopleException();
16        }
17    }
18
19    int getMaximumOccupancy() {
20        return MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY;
21    }
22 }
```

Which of these lines are within the scope of the `newRoommate` variable? Check all that apply.

☐ line 3

☐ line 8

☒ line 12

☒ line 15

☐ line 20



Explanation

The scope of a parameter is its function body, so lines 10-16 are in scope.

What is the appropriate scope for the (currently undeclared) `address` variable?

☒ lines 2-21

☐ lines 3-4

☐ line 8

☐ lines 12-16



Explanation

`address` is an instance variable, also called a field in Java, so its scope should be the entire class.

Out of the choices below, what is the best declaration for the `roommates` variable?

☐ `List roommates;`

☐ `Set roommates;`

☒ `final Set roommates;`

☐ `HashSet roommates;`



Explanation

The `roommates` variable is a `Set`, not a `List`, and it's best to use interfaces like `Set` rather than concrete types like `HashSet` when declaring a variable. Include `final` because the `roommates` variable should always point to the same `Set` object. It never needs to be reassigned, only mutated.

Out of the choices below, what is the best declaration for the `MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY` variable?

☐ `int MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY = 8;`

☐ `final int MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY = 8;`

☐ `static int MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY = 8;`

☒ `static final int MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY = 8;`



Explanation

`MAXIMUM_OCCUPANCY` is a constant, so it should be declared static (not an instance variable, but a class variable) and final (so that it can never be reassigned).

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