

Topic 11

Scanner objects, conditional execution

" There are only two kinds of languages:
the ones people complain about
and the ones nobody uses."

— Bjarne Stroustrup, creator of C++

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Input and `System.in`

- ▶ **interactive program:** Reads input from the console.
 - While the program runs, it asks the user to type input.
 - The input typed by the user is stored in variables in the code.
 - Can be tricky; users are unpredictable and misbehave.
 - But interactive programs have more interesting behavior.
- ▶ **Scanner:** An object that can read input from many sources.
 - Communicates with `System.in`
 - Can also read from files (Ch. 6), web sites, databases, ...

Scanner syntax

- ▶ The `Scanner` class is found in the `java.util` package.

```
import java.util.Scanner;
```

- ▶ Constructing a `Scanner` object to read console input:

```
Scanner name = new Scanner(System.in);
```

- Example:

```
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
```

Scanner methods

Method	Description
<code>nextInt()</code>	reads an <code>int</code> from the user and returns it
<code>nextDouble()</code>	reads a <code>double</code> from the user
<code>nextLine()</code>	reads a <i>one-line</i> <code>String</code> from the user
<code>next()</code>	reads a one-word <code>String</code> from the user Avoid when Scanner connected to <code>System.in</code>

- Each method waits until the user presses Enter.
- The value typed by the user is returned.
- **prompt:** A message telling the user what input to type.

```
System.out.print("How old are you? "); // prompt
int age = console.nextInt();
System.out.println("You typed " + age);
```

Scanner example

```
import java.util.Scanner;
```

```
public class UserInputExample {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);  
  
        → System.out.print("How old are you? ");  
        → int age = console.nextInt();  
  
        → int years = 65 - age;  
        System.out.println(years + " years until retirement!");  
    }  
}
```

age

years



▶ Console (user input underlined):

How old are you? 29
36 years until retirement!



Scanner example 2

- ▶ The `Scanner` can read multiple values from one line.

```
import java.util.Scanner;
public class ScannerMultiply {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Please type two numbers: ");
        int num1 = console.nextInt();
        int num2 = console.nextInt();

        int product = num1 * num2;
        System.out.println("The product is " + product);
    }
}
```

- ▶ Output (user input underlined):

```
Please type two numbers: 8 6
The product is 48
```

Clicker 1 - Input tokens

- ▶ **token**: A unit of user input, as read by the `Scanner`.
 - Tokens are separated by *whitespace* (spaces, tabs, new lines).
 - How many tokens appear on the following line of **input**?

23 John Smith 42.0 "Hello world" \$2.50 " 19"

- A. 2 B. 6 C. 7
- D. 8 E. 9

input tokens

- ▶ When a token is the wrong type, the program crashes. (runtime error)

```
System.out.print("What is your age? ");  
int age = console.nextInt();
```

Output:

What is your age? Timmy

java.util.InputMismatchException

at java.util.Scanner.next(Unknown Source)

at java.util.Scanner.nextInt(Unknown Source)

...

Exercise

- ▶ Prompt the user to enter two people's heights in inches.
 - Each person should be classified as one of the following:
 - short (under 5'3")
 - medium(5'3" to 5'11")
 - tall (6' or over)
 - The program should end by printing which person is taller.

Height in feet and inches: 5 7
You are medium.

Height in feet and inches: 6 1
You are tall.

Person #2 is taller than person #1.