



Eighth Edition

Be Prepared
for the
AP
Computer Science
Exam in Java

Chapter 6: Annotated Solutions
to Past Free-Response Questions

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The free-response questions for this exam are posted on apstudent.collegeboard.org and, for teachers, on AP Central:

- For students: apstudent.collegeboard.org
- For teachers: apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses

Scoring guidelines are usually posted over the summer.

The www.skylit.com/beprepared/x2016all.zip file contains complete Java classes that include solutions and test programs for runnable projects.

Question 1

Part (a)

```
public class RandomStringChooser
{
    private ArrayList<String> words;

    public RandomStringChooser(String[] wordArray)
    {
        words = new ArrayList<String>();
        for (String w : wordArray)
            words.add(w);
    }

    public String getNext()
    {
        if (words.size() == 0)
            return "NONE"; 1
        int i = (int)(Math.random() * words.size());
        return words.remove(i); 2
    }
} 3, 4
```

Notes:

1. Must return "NONE" if the list is empty.
2. Recall that `remove(i)` returns the element formerly at index `i`.
3. Since the class implements a list, we could also derive this class from `ArrayList<String>`:

```
public class RandomStringChooser extends ArrayList<String>
{
    public RandomStringChooser(String[] wordArray)
    {
        for (String w : wordArray)
            add(w);
    }

    public String getNext()
    {
        if (size() == 0)
            return "NONE";
        int i = (int)(Math.random() * size());
        return remove(i);
    }
}
```

4. It is possible to implement this class using standard arrays instead of an `ArrayList`. However, the code will be longer and more prone to errors. You would have to either mark the elements already chosen or to rearrange the values in the array and keep track of the number of remaining elements — the functionality already provided in `ArrayList`.

Part (b)

```
public RandomLetterChooser(String str)
{
    super(getSingleLetters(str)); 1
}
```

Notes:

1. We have to somehow pass the array of letters to `RandomStringChooser`'s constructor, and `super`, if present, must be the first statement in the subclass's constructor.

Question 2

Part (a)

```
public LogMessage(String message)
{
    int i = message.indexOf(":");
    machineId = message.substring(0, i);
    description = message.substring(i+1);
}
```

Part (b)

```
public boolean containsWord(String keyword)
{
    return (" " + description + " ").indexOf(" " + keyword + " ") >= 0;
} 1
```

Notes:

1. It is much easier to pad description with spaces at each end than to consider special cases when keyword is at the beginning or at the end of description. The brute-force alternative is time-consuming and prone to errors:

```
public boolean containsWord(String keyword)
{
    int len = keyword.length();
    String d = description;

    while (true)
    {
        int i = d.indexOf(keyword);
        if (i < 0)
            return false;

        if ((i == 0 || d.substring(i-1, i).equals(" ")) &&
            (i == d.length() - len || d.substring(i + len,
                                                    i + len + 1).equals(" ")))
            return true;

        /* Or, outside of the AP subset:
        if ((i == 0 || d.charAt(i-1) == ' ') &&
            (i == d.length() - len || d.charAt(i + len) == ' '))
            return true; */

        d = d.substring(i + len);
    }
}
```

Part (c)

```
public List<LogMessage> removeMessages(String keyword)
{
    List<LogMessage> removed = new ArrayList<LogMessage>();
    int i = 0;

    while(i < messageList.size())
    {
        LogMessage msg = messageList.get(i);

        if (msg.containsWord(keyword))
        {
            removed.add(msg);
            messageList.remove(i);
        }
        else
            i++;
    }

    return removed;
}
```

Notes:

1. You might be tempted to traverse `messageList` in reverse, but then you need to insert removed elements at the beginning of the removed list, which is inefficient.

Question 3

Part (a)

```
private boolean toBeLabeled(int r, int c, boolean[][] blackSquares)
{
    return !blackSquares[r][c] &&
           (r == 0 || blackSquares[r-1][c] || c == 0 ||
            blackSquares[r][c-1]);
}
```

Part (b)

```
public Crossword(boolean[][] blackSquares)
{
    int rows = blackSquares.length;
    int cols = blackSquares[0].length;

    puzzle = new Square[rows][cols];
    int num = 1;

    for (int r = 0; r < rows; r++)
    {
        for (int c = 0; c < cols; c++)
        {
            if (toBeLabeled(r, c, blackSquares)) 1
            {
                puzzle[r][c] = new Square(false, num);
                num++;
            }
            else
            {
                puzzle[r][c] = new Square(blackSquares[r][c], 0);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Notes:

1. Notice that `toBeLabeled` is a method of `Crossword`, not `Square`. Therefore, `toBeLabeled` can be called in the `Crossword`'s constructor without any prefix. The question does not specify any methods of `Square`.

Question 4**Part (a)**

```
public static int totalLetters(List wordList)
{
    int count = 0;

    for (String word : wordList)
        count += word.length();

    return count;
}
```

Part (b)

```
public static int basicGapWidth(List wordList,
                                int formattedLen)
{
    return (formattedLen - totalLetters(wordList)) /
           (wordList.size() - 1); 1
}
```

Notes:

1. The number of gaps is one less than the number of words.

Part (c)

```
public static String format(List<String> wordList,
                           int formattedLen)
{
    int gapWidth = basicGapWidth(wordList, formattedLen); 1
    String gap = "";

    for (int count = 0; count < gapWidth; count++)
        gap += " ";

    int extraSpaces = leftoverSpaces(wordList, formattedLen);

    String formattedStr = "";

    for (int i = 0; i < wordList.size() - 1; i++)
    {
        formattedStr += wordList.get(i) + gap;

        if (extraSpaces > 0) 2
        {
            formattedStr += " ";
            extraSpaces--;
        }
    }

    formattedStr += wordList.get(wordList.size() - 1); 3

    return formattedStr;
}
```

Notes:

1. It makes sense to form the basic gap string first.
2. Add an extra space if there are any left.
3. Or:

```
...
String formattedStr = wordList.get(0);

for (int i = 1; i < wordList.size(); i++)
{
    if (extraSpaces > 0)
    {
        formattedStr += " ";
        extraSpaces--;
    }
    formattedStr += gap + wordList.get(i);
}
```