**Study Questions**

CSC 207, “Algorithms and Object-Oriented Design”
Department of Computer Science
Grinnell College

**For August 30, 2019**

1. What language construct in Java is most similar to a function definition in C? What are the most significant differences between C function definitions and their Java analogues?

2. What does the keyword `static` signify when it occurs in a field declaration or in the signature of a method definition?

3. Examine the short Java program at
   ```java
   /home/hajiamini/courses/CSC207/code/HelloWorld.java
   ```
   Why do some of the comments in that program begin with `/**` rather than `/*`?

4. How would you find out what methods the objects of the Java `String` class support and how to invoke those methods?

**For September 2, 2019**

5. What is the difference between Java’s two right-shift operators, `>>` and `>>>`? Give an example in which applying these operators to the same operands would yield different results.

6. Do the lab *Starting Out in Java*. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

**For September 4, 2019**

7. What’s the difference between a reference and a pointer? In what contexts, in Java, does a reference variable behave like a C pointer?

8. Java has no operators analogous to the dereferencing operators in C (the unary `*` operator and the `->` operator, which dereferences its left operand and selects a field from the result). How does Java handle dereferencing?

9. Do the lab *References and Objects*. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

**For September 6, 2019**

10. What’s the point of information hiding and encapsulation? How are these ideas related to abstraction in the object-oriented programming?

11. The author’s definition of the `BigRational` class ensures that `BigRational` objects will always satisfy certain invariants. What are they?

12. Do the lab *Objects and Classes*. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

**For September 9, 2019**

13. How can one direct the Java compiler to look for importable packages in particular directories?

14. Do the lab *Java Standard Libraries* omitting the optional exercise at the end. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.
Study Questions — page 2

For September 11, 2019

15. What are the preconditions that the java virtual machine must satisfy before it can start to execute the main method of the class specified on the command line?

16. Do the lab The Java Virtual Machine. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way and your answers to the questions posed.

For September 13, 2019

17. What advantage does Java’s immutable String type have in comparison with the mutable strings of C and Scheme?

18. Do the lab Strings and StringBuilders. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

19. The lab prompts you to use StringBuilder objects when assembling strings incrementally. Explain why this is more efficient than working with String objects and concatenating them together.

For September 16, 2019

20. What happens if an exception is thrown during the execution of two different try-blocks? (This can happen if a try-block includes a call to a method that contains another try-block, which includes a call to a method in which the exception is thrown.)

21. What happens if no try-blocks are being executed when an exception is thrown?

22. Do the lab Exceptions. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

For September 18, 2019

23. Do the lab The Eclipse Integrated Development Environment. (You may omit the section “First Encounter” and exercises 1–4 if you have used Eclipse before.) Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

For September 20, 2019

24. The textbook claims (page 53) that Java lacks the formatting options that C and C++ provide. Read the description of the format method in the java.lang.String class and compare the facilities it provides with those of the printf function in C.

25. Do parts 1–3 of the lab Input and Output. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

For September 23, 2019

26. What does it mean for one class (A) to be “type-compatible” with another class (B)?

27. What does the (implicitly defined) super method do, and under what conditions can it be used?

28. Do the lab Inheritance. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.
For September 25, 2019

29. Do the lab Generics. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce program output.

For September 27, 2019

30. What is the purpose of a version-control system? Given this purpose, what kinds of files should not be placed under version control?

31. One of the distinguishing features of the Git version-control software is that there need not be any central master repository for a project. Under what circumstances would this be an advantage?

32. Do exercises 1 through 9 in the The Git Version-Control System. Write a short summary confirming that you completed each step and reporting any difficulties you encountered along the way. Include any Java code that you wrote and report the results of all exercises that produce output either from a Java program or from Git itself.