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 /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.
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.