

AP® Computer Science A
2005 Free-Response Questions

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COMPUTER SCIENCE A

SECTION II

Time—1 hour and 45 minutes

Number of questions—4

Percent of total grade—50

Directions: SHOW ALL YOUR WORK, REMEMBER THAT PROGRAM SEGMENTS ARE TO BE WRITTEN IN Java.

Notes:

- Assume that the classes listed in the Quick Reference found in the Appendix have been imported where appropriate.
- Unless otherwise noted in the question, assume that parameters in method calls are not `null` and that methods are called only when their preconditions are satisfied.
- In writing solutions for each question, you may use any of the accessible methods that are listed in classes defined in that question. Writing significant amounts of code that can be replaced by a call to one of these methods may not receive full credit.

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4. Consider a grade-averaging scheme in which the final average of a student's scores is computed differently from the traditional average if the scores have "improved." Scores have improved if each score is greater than or equal to the previous score. The final average of the scores is computed as follows.

   A student has `n` scores indexed from 0 to `n-1`. If the scores have improved, only those scores with indexes greater than or equal to `n/2` are averaged. If the scores have not improved, all the scores are averaged.

   The following table shows several lists of scores and how they would be averaged using the scheme described above.

Student Scores	Improved?	Final Average
50, 50, 20, 80, 53	No	(50 + 50 + 20 + 80 + 53) / 5.0 = 50.6
20, 50, 50, 53, 80	Yes	(50 + 53 + 80) / 3.0 = 61.0
20, 50, 50, 80	Yes	(50 + 80) / 2.0 = 65.0

   Consider the following incomplete `StudentRecord` class declaration. Each `StudentRecord` object stores a list of that student's scores and contains methods to compute that student's final average.

```
public class StudentRecord
{
  private int[] scores; // contains scores.length values
                        // scores.length > 1

  // constructors and other data fields not shown


  // returns the average (arithmetic mean) of the values in scores
  // whose subscripts are between first and last, inclusive
  // precondition:  0 <= first <= last < scores.length
  private double average(int first, int last)
  {  /* to be implemented in part (a) */  }


  // returns true if each successive value in scores is greater
  // than or equal to the previous value;
  // otherwise, returns false
  private boolean hasImproved()
  {  /* to be implemented in part (b) */  }


  // if the values in scores have improved, returns the average
  // of the elements in scores with indexes greater than or equal
  // to scores.length/2;
  // otherwise, returns the average of all of the values in scores
  public double finalAverage()
  {  /* to be implemented in part (c) */  }

}
```

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(a) Write the `StudentRecord` method `average`. This method returns the average of the values in `scores` given a starting and an ending index.

Complete method `average` below.

```
// returns the average (arithmetic mean) of the values in scores
// whose subscripts are between first and last, inclusive
// precondition:  0 <= first <= last < scores.length
private double average(int first, int last)
```

(b) Write the `StudentRecord` method `hasImproved`.

Complete method `hasImproved` below.

```
// returns true if each successive value in scores is greater
// than or equal to the previous value;
// otherwise, returns false
private boolean hasImproved()
```

(c) Write the `StudentRecord` method `finalAverage`.

In writing `finalAverage`, you must call the methods defined in parts (a) and (b). Assume that these methods work as specified, regardless of what you wrote in parts (a) and (b).

Complete method `finalAverage` below.

```
// if the values in scores have improved, returns the average
// of the elements in scores with indexes greater than or equal
// to scores.length/2;
// otherwise, returns the average of all of the values in scores
public double finalAverage()
```

END OF EXAM

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