Pencil & Paper 01

1. What data would you give to a program that computes the average of three numbers?

A primitive with the data type *float* is capable of storing an average (mean) value. It is likely that the returned value from the calculation will not be a whole number, which results in an inaccurate value if the numbers following the decimal are discarded—this occurs when another data type is used, such as *int* or *long*. The data type *double* may also be used instead of *float* and allows for increased precision.

2. What data would you give to a program that computes the square root of a number?

Again, the data types *float* or *double* would be appropriate to use in this case, since square root computations rarely result in whole numbers.

3. Is Java a high-level or a low-level programming language?

Java is a *high-level programming language*. The Java Runtime Environment runs on top of the host OS.

4. What is a source program (aka, source code)?

Source code refers to the typed commands and instructions within a text document that makes up an executable program upon compilation. Source code is also referred to as the "input program" by our textbook.

5. What does the Java compiler do?

The Java compiler changes source code into an intermediate language called *byte code* which can then be executed by the Java Runtime Environment.

6. What do you call the program that translates Java bytecode into machine-language instructions?

The Java JIT (or "Just In Time") compiler.

7. Suppose that *janet* is an object that has a method called *speak* that takes one argument, a String. Write an invocation of the method *speak* by the object *janet*, using the argument "Hello".

The method may be invoked with the following line of code: janet.speak("Hello");

8. Suppose you define a class named *Snack* in a file. What name should the file have?

The name of the file must be the same as the name of the class, in this case *Snack*. This name is also case-sensitive, like the Java language itself. The extension for the file must be *.java*. The full name of this file must be the following:

Snack.java

9. What is the command to compile *Snack*? What will be the name of the resulting bytecode (assuming *Snack* successfully compiles)?

The command to compile *Snack.java* will be the following: *javac Snack.java*

10. Assuming the class Snack contains a complete Java program, and has been successfully compiled, what is the command to run the program Snack?

The command to run the compiled program *Snack.class* will be the following: java *Snack*

(The .class file extension is omitted when starting a Java program.)