

AP[®] COMPUTER SCIENCE A

2011 GENERAL SCORING GUIDELINES

Apply the question-specific rubric first; the question-specific rubric *always* takes precedence.

Penalties: The penalty categorization below is for cases not covered by the question-specific rubric. Points can only be deducted in a part of the question that has earned credit via the question-specific rubric, and no section may have a negative point total. A given penalty can be assessed **only once** in a question, even if it occurs on different parts of that question. A maximum of 3 penalty points may be assessed over the entire question.

Nonpenalized Errors

spelling/case discrepancies if no ambiguity*

local variable not declared if other variables are declared in some part

use of keyword as identifier

[] vs. () vs. <>

= instead of == (and vice versa)

length/size confusion for array, String, and ArrayList, with or without ()

private qualifier on local variable

extraneous code with no side effect; e.g., precondition check

common mathematical symbols for operators ($x \bullet \div \leq \geq < > \neq$)

missing { } where indentation clearly conveys intent and { } used elsewhere

default constructor called without parens; e.g., new Critter;

missing () on parameter-less method call

missing () around if/while conditions

missing ; when majority are present

missing public on class or constructor header

extraneous [] when referencing entire array

[i,j] instead of [i][j]

extraneous size in array declaration, e.g., int[size] nums = new int[size];

Minor Errors (½ point)

confused identifier (e.g., len for length or left() for getLeft())

local variables used but none declared

missing new in constructor call

modifying a constant (final)

use of equals or compareTo method on primitives, e.g., int x; ...x.equals(val)

array/collection access confusion ([] get)

assignment dyslexia, e.g., x + 3 = y; for y = x + 3;

super(method()) instead of super.method()

formal parameter syntax (with type) in method call, e.g., a = method(int x)

missing public from method header when required

"false"/"true" or 0/1 for boolean values

"null" for null

Major Errors (1 point)

extraneous code that causes side effect; e.g., information written to output

interface or class name instead of variable identifier; e.g., Bug.move() instead of aBug.move()

aMethod(obj) instead of obj.aMethod()

attempt to use private data or method when not accessible

destruction of persistent data (e.g., changing value referenced by parameter)

use of class name in place of super in constructor or method call

void method (or constructor) returns a value

Applying Minor Penalties (½ point):

A minor infraction that occurs **exactly once** when the same concept is **correct two or more times** is regarded as an oversight and **not penalized**. A minor penalty **must be assessed** if the item is the **only instance, one of two, or occurs two or more times**.

* Spelling and case discrepancies for identifiers fall under the "nonpenalized" category only if the correction can be **unambiguously** inferred from context; for example, "ArayList" instead of "ArrayList". As a counterexample, note that if a student declares "Bug bug;" then uses "Bug.move()" instead of "bug.move()", the context does **not** allow for the reader to assume the object instead of the class.

AP[®] COMPUTER SCIENCE A

2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 3: Fuel Depot

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Part (a) | <code>nextTankToFill</code> | 5 points |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|

Intent: Return index of tank with minimum level (\leq threshold)

- +4** Determine minimum element of `tanks` that is \leq threshold, if any
 - +1½** Consider fuel levels of elements of `tanks`
 - +½** Accesses fuel level of an element of `tanks`
 - +½** Accesses at least one element of `tanks` in context of repetition (iteration/recursion)
 - +½** Accesses every element of `tanks` at least once
 - +2½** Identify minimum element of `tanks` that is \leq threshold
 - +½** Compares fuel levels from at least two elements of `tanks`
 - +½** Implements algorithm to find minimum
 - +½** Identifies tank (*object or index*) holding identified minimum
 - +½** Compares `threshold` with fuel level from at least one element of `tanks`
 - +½** Determines element identified as minimum fuel level that is also \leq threshold
- +1** Return the index of the element satisfying the conditions, or the current index if no element does so
 - +½** Returns index of element identified as satisfying threshold & minimum conditions*
 - +½** Returns `filler.getCurrentIndex()` when no element satisfies conditions*

**Note: Point is not awarded if wrong data type is returned.*

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Part (b) | <code>moveToLocation</code> | 4 points |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|

Intent: Move robot to given tank location

- +2** Ensure robot is pointing in direction of tank to be filled
 - +½** Determines direction `filler` is currently facing
 - +½** Changes `filler`'s direction for some condition
 - +1** Establishes `filler`'s direction as appropriate for all conditions
- +2** Place robot at specified location
 - +½** Invokes `moveForward` method with a parameter
 - +½** Invokes `moveForward` method with a verified non-zero parameter
 - +1** Invokes `filler.moveForward` method with a correctly computed parameter

AP[®] COMPUTER SCIENCE A

2011 CANONICAL SOLUTIONS

Question 3: Fuel Depot

Part (a):

```
public int nextTankToFill(int threshold) {
    int minLevel = this.tanks.get(0).getFuelLevel();
    int minTankIndex = 0;
    for (int i = 1; i < this.tanks.size(); i++) {
        if (this.tanks.get(i).getFuelLevel() < minLevel) {
            minLevel = this.tanks.get(i).getFuelLevel();
            minTankIndex = i;
        }
    }
    if (minLevel <= threshold) {
        return minTankIndex;
    } else {
        return this.filler.getCurrentIndex();
    }
}
```

// Alternative solution

```
public int nextTankToFillA(int threshold) {
    int minTankIndex = this.filler.getCurrentIndex();
    for (int i = 0; i < this.tanks.size(); i++) {
        if (this.tanks.get(i).getFuelLevel() <= threshold &&
            this.tanks.get(i).getFuelLevel() <
            this.tanks.get(minTankIndex).getFuelLevel()) {
            minTankIndex = i;
        }
    }
    return minTankIndex;
}
```

Part (b):

```
public void moveToLocation(int locIndex) {
    if (this.filler.getCurrentIndex() > locIndex) {
        if (this.filler.isFacingRight()) {
            this.filler.changeDirection();
        }
        this.filler.moveForward(this.filler.getCurrentIndex() - locIndex);
    }
    if (this.filler.getCurrentIndex() < locIndex) {
        if (!this.filler.isFacingRight()) {
            this.filler.changeDirection();
        }
        this.filler.moveForward(locIndex - this.filler.getCurrentIndex());
    }
}
```

These canonical solutions serve an expository role, depicting general approaches to solution. Each reflects only one instance from the infinite set of valid solutions. The solutions are presented in a coding style chosen to enhance readability and facilitate understanding.

3A,

Complete method `nextTankToFill` below.

```
/** Determines and returns the index of the next tank to be filled.
 * @param threshold fuel tanks with a fuel level  $\leq$  threshold may be filled
 * @return index of the location of the next tank to be filled
 * Postcondition: the state of the robot has not changed
 */
public int nextTankToFill(int threshold)
{
    int nextTank = filler.getCurrentIndex();
    int lowestLevel = threshold;
    FuelTank tank;
    for (int i = 0; i < tanks.size(); i++) {
        tank = tanks.get(i);
        if (tank.getFuelLevel() <= lowestLevel) {
            lowestLevel = tank.getFuelLevel();
            nextTank = i;
        }
    }

    return nextTank;
}
}
```

Part (b) begins on page 16.

- (b) Write the `FuelDepot` method `moveToLocation` that will move the robot to the given tank location. Because the robot can only move forward, it may be necessary to change the direction of the robot before having it move. Do not move the robot past the end of the line of fuel tanks.

Complete method `moveToLocation` below.

```

/** Moves the robot to location locIndex.
 * @param locIndex the index of the location of the tank to move to
 *      Precondition:  $0 \leq \text{locIndex} < \text{tanks.size}()$ 
 *      Postcondition: the current location of the robot is locIndex
 */
public void moveToLocation(int locIndex)

    int currentBotPos = filler.getCurrentIndex();
    int movement = locIndex - currentBotPos;
    // if positive, move right, if negative, move left ↵
    if (movement > 0) {
        // make sure it's facing right
        if (!filler.isFacingRight) filler.changeDirection();
    } else if (movement < 0) {
        if (filler.isFacingRight) filler.changeDirection();
    } else { // movement == 0
        // doesn't need to move
        return;
    }

    filler.moveForward(Math.abs(movement));

```

Complete method `nextTankToFill` below.

```
/** Determines and returns the index of the next tank to be filled.
 * @param threshold fuel tanks with a fuel level  $\leq$  threshold may be filled
 * @return index of the location of the next tank to be filled
 * Postcondition: the state of the robot has not changed
 */
public int nextTankToFill(int threshold)
{
    for(int k=0; k < tanks.size(); k++)
        if(tanks.get(k).getFuelLevel() <= threshold)
            return k;
    return filler.getCurrentIndex();
}
```

Part (b) begins on page 16.

- (b) Write the `FuelDepot` method `moveToLocation` that will move the robot to the given tank location. Because the robot can only move forward, it may be necessary to change the direction of the robot before having it move. Do not move the robot past the end of the line of fuel tanks.

Complete method `moveToLocation` below.

```

/** Moves the robot to location locIndex.
 * @param locIndex the index of the location of the tank to move to
 *      Precondition:  $0 \leq \text{locIndex} < \text{tanks.size}()$ 
 *      Postcondition: the current location of the robot is locIndex
 */
public void moveToLocation(int locIndex)
{
    int cur = filler.getCurrentIndex(); // the current location of the robot
    boolean right = filler.isFacingRight();
    if (cur == locIndex)
        return;
    if (((cur > locIndex) && right) || ((cur < locIndex) && (!right)))
        filler.changeDirection(); // change direction if needed
    filler.moveForward(Math.abs(cur - locIndex));
}

```

Complete method nextTankToFill below.

```

/** Determines and returns the index of the next tank to be filled.
 * @param threshold fuel tanks with a fuel level  $\leq$  threshold may be filled
 * @return index of the location of the next tank to be filled
 * Postcondition: the state of the robot has not changed
 */
public int nextTankToFill(int threshold)
    int index = -1;
    int minimum = threshold;
    for (int x=0; x < tanks.size(); x++) {
        if (tanks[x]  $\leq$  minimum) {
            minimum = tanks[x];
            index = x;
        }
    }
    if (index == -1) {
        return locIndex;
    } else {
        locIndex = index;
        return locIndex;
    }
}

```

Part (b) begins on page 16.

3C₂

- (b) Write the `FuelDepot` method `moveToLocation` that will move the robot to the given tank location. Because the robot can only move forward, it may be necessary to change the direction of the robot before having it move. Do not move the robot past the end of the line of fuel tanks.

Complete method `moveToLocation` below.

```
/** Moves the robot to location locIndex.
 * @param locIndex the index of the location of the tank to move to
 * Precondition:  $0 \leq \text{locIndex} < \text{tanks.size}()$ 
 * Postcondition: the current location of the robot is locIndex
 */
public void moveToLocation(int locIndex)
    if (locIndex  $\geq$  0 && locIndex < tanks.size())
        filler.move(locIndex);
```

AP[®] COMPUTER SCIENCE A

2011 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 3

Overview

This question involved the `List` interface and two provided interfaces: `FuelTank` and `FuelRobot`. It also contained a `FuelDepot` class, which represented a fuel depot that had a number of fuel tanks arranged in a line, and a robot that moved a filling mechanism back and forth along the line so that the tanks could be filled. The `FuelDepot` class contained two important instance variables: a `FuelRobot` named `filler`, and a `List` of `FuelTanks` named `tanks`. Students needed to use these variables to call methods that were specified in `List` and the two provided interfaces. The first part of this question focused on implementing an algorithm to traverse a `List` data structure and to find a minimum. The second part of this question focused on the state of the `filler` object. Students needed to query `filler`'s state, utilize a combination of Boolean conditions to determine whether `filler`'s state should be changed, and change `filler`'s state as appropriate. Additionally, students had to satisfy a precondition of a method that they invoked (`moveForward`).

Two unrelated `FuelDepot` methods were to be implemented. In part (a) the method `nextTankToFill` was implemented and required the use of both `filler` and `tanks` instance variables and some of their methods as specified in the `FuelRobot` and `FuelTank` interfaces. Implementing `nextTankToFill` required an algorithm to find the minimum fuel level of any tank in the depot. This also required the use of `List` methods to access the elements of `tanks`. Finally, if the minimum fuel level was less than or equal to the value `threshold`, the index of the corresponding tank was returned. Otherwise, the index of the current tank was returned.

In part (b) the method `moveToLocation` was implemented and required the use of the `filler` instance variable. First, this method used the `moveToLocation` method's parameter and `FuelRobot` methods to determine the direction and number of spaces that `filler` must move. Then it used other `FuelRobot` methods to change direction and/or move `filler` as appropriate. It was important to be careful when calling `FuelRobot`'s `moveForward` method so that the parameter was positive. This was a `moveForward` method precondition.

Sample: 3A

Score: 9

In part (a) the student uses a `for` loop to find the element of `tanks` that contains the least amount of fuel that is also less than or equal to the `threshold`. The variable `lowestLevel` contains the lowest fuel level found and `nextTank` contains the index of the element of `tanks` that contains that minimum fuel level. The `nextTank` index is returned. Note that initializing `lowestLevel` to `threshold` eliminates the need for a separate test to compare fuel levels with `threshold`. Also, initializing `nextTank` to `filler.getCurrentIndex()` eliminates the need for a check prior to the return. Part (a) earned all 5 points.

In part (b) `filler` is correctly used to call its methods. First, the location of `filler` is determined, and the number of locations to move is calculated. The sign of movement and `filler`'s `isFacingRight` method are then used to determine whether `filler` is facing in the correct direction. If not, `filler` is turned by using `filler.changeDirection`. In the case where `filler` should not move, an explicit return is used to prevent calling `moveForward` with a 0 parameter. Otherwise, `Math.abs` is used to prevent calling `moveForward` with a negative parameter. Part (b) earned all 4 points.

AP[®] COMPUTER SCIENCE A

2011 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 3 (continued)

Sample: 3B

Score: 6

Part (a) has two significant omissions. First, there is no attempt to find a minimum in the loop. Fuel levels are only being compared to the `threshold`. This lost the “compares fuel levels from at least two elements of `tanks`” $\frac{1}{2}$ point as well as all $\frac{1}{2}$ -point items that mention minimum, for a total deduction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ points. Also, there is an early return inside the loop. This lost the $\frac{1}{2}$ point for “accesses every element of `tanks`” as well as all $\frac{1}{2}$ -point items that mention minimum, for a total deduction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ points. Because the minimum $\frac{1}{2}$ points could not be lost twice, these two omissions lost a total of 3 points. All possible remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ points were earned for the proper use of `getFuelLevel`, accessing a tank in the context of repetition, comparing a tank’s fuel level to `threshold`, and returning `filler.getCurrentIndex` when no tank satisfies the conditions. Part (a) earned 2 points.

Part (b) has an explicit check that guards against calling `moveForward` with a 0 parameter. It also uses a single `if` statement to determine whether `filler`’s direction must be changed. `Math.abs` is used to prevent `moveForward` from being called with a negative parameter. Part (b) earned all 4 points.

Sample: 3C

Score: 2

In part (a) `getFuelLevel` is not used. This lost all $\frac{1}{2}$ -point items that mention fuel level, for a total deduction of 2 points. When students do not call `getFuelLevel`, the remaining items are scored as if the elements of `tanks` are fuel levels. As a result, this response earned each of the $\frac{1}{2}$ points for “implements algorithm minimum,” “identifies tank holding minimum,” and “returns index of element.” The default “return” $\frac{1}{2}$ point was lost because `filler.getCurrentIndex` is not returned. The array access operator `[]` is used instead of `List`’s `get` method. This very common array/collection access confusion results in a General Scoring Guidelines minor penalty of $\frac{1}{2}$ point. Note that `locIndex` is not declared, but other local variables are properly declared, so that omission was not penalized. After the $\frac{1}{2}$ -point penalty was assessed, part (a) earned a total of 2 points.

Part (b) does not determine the direction `filler` is facing. This lost $\frac{1}{2}$ point. It also does not determine the direction in which `filler` should face nor call `filler.changeDirection` when necessary. This lost $1\frac{1}{2}$ points. The attempt to move `filler` earned none of the 2 possible placement points. The method name should be `moveForward` rather than `move`, and the parameter is not correct. This solution earned none of the points for part (b).