



## **AP<sup>®</sup> Computer Science A 2012 Scoring Guidelines**

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# AP<sup>®</sup> COMPUTER SCIENCE A

## 2012 GENERAL SCORING GUIDELINES

Apply the question-specific rubric first, which always takes precedence. Penalty points can only be deducted in a part of the question that has earned credit via the question-specific rubric. No part of a question — (a), (b), or (c) — may have a negative point total. A given penalty can be assessed only once for a question, even if it occurs multiple times or in different parts of that question.

### 1-Point Penalty

- (w) Extraneous code that causes a side effect or prevents earning points in the rubric (e.g., *information written to output*)
- (x) Local variables used but none declared
- (y) Destruction of persistent data (e.g., *changing value referenced by parameter*)
- (z) `Void` method or constructor that returns a value

### No Penalty

- o Extraneous code that causes no side effect
- o Extraneous code that is unreachable and would not have earned points in rubric
- o Spelling/case discrepancies where there is no ambiguity\*
- o Local variable not declared, provided that other variables are declared in some part
- o `private` qualifier on local variable
- o Missing `public` qualifier on class or constructor header
- o Keyword used as an identifier
- o Common mathematical symbols used for operators (`x • + ≤ ≥ < > ≠`)
- o `[]` vs. `()` vs. `<>`
- o `=` instead of `==` (and vice versa)
- o Array/collection element access confusion (`[]` vs. `get` for r-values)
- o Array/collection element modification confusion (`[]` vs. `set` for l-values)
- o `length/size` confusion for array, `String`, and `ArrayList`, with or without `()`
- o Extraneous `[]` when referencing entire array
- o `[i, j]` instead of `[i][j]`
- o Extraneous `size` in array declaration, (e.g., `int[size] nums = new int[size];`)
- o Missing `;` provided that line breaks and indentation clearly convey intent
- o Missing `{ }` where indentation clearly conveys intent and `{ }` are used elsewhere
- o Missing `()` on parameter-less method or constructor invocations
- o Missing `()` around `if/while` conditions
- o Use of local variable outside declared scope (must be within same method body)
- o Failure to cast object retrieved from nongeneric collection

\* Spelling and case discrepancies for identifiers fall under the “No Penalty” category only if the correction can be **unambiguously** inferred from context; for example, “`ArayList`” instead of “`ArrayList`”. As a counterexample, note that if the code declares “`Bug bug;`” and then uses “`Bug.move()`” instead of “`bug.move()`”, the context does **not** allow for the reader to assume the object instead of the class.

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## Question 1: Climbing Club

<b>Part (a)</b>	<code>addClimb</code> (append)	<b>2 points</b>
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**Intent:** Create new `ClimbInfo` using data from parameters and append to `climbList`

- +1 Creates new `ClimbInfo` object using parametric data correctly
- +1 Appends the created object to `climbList`  
(no bounds error and no destruction of existing data)  
(point not awarded if inserted more than once)

<b>Part (b)</b>	<code>addClimb</code> (alphabetical)	<b>6 points</b>
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**Intent:** Create new `ClimbInfo` object using data from parameters and insert into `climbList`, maintaining alphabetical order

- +1 Creates new `ClimbInfo` object(s), using parametric data correctly
- +1 Compares `peakName` value with value retrieved from object in list (*must use* `getName`)
- +1 Inserts object into list based on a comparison (other than equality) with object in list  
(point not awarded if inserted more than once)
- +1 Compares parametric data with all appropriate entries in `climbList` (no bounds error)
- +1 Inserts new `ClimbInfo` object into `climbList` (no destruction of existing data)
- +1 Inserts new `ClimbInfo` object into `climbList` once and only once in maintaining alphabetical order (no destruction of existing data)

<b>Part (c)</b>	analysis	<b>1 point</b>
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**Intent:** Analyze behavioral differences between **append** and **alphabetical** versions of `addClimb`

- +1 (i) NO (ii) YES Both must be answered correctly

<b>Question-Specific Penalties</b>
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- 1 (z) Attempts to return a value from `addClimb`

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2012 CANONICAL SOLUTIONS**

**Question 1: Climbing Club**

**Part (a):**

```
public void addClimb(String peakName, int climbTime) {  
    this.climbList.add(new ClimbInfo(peakName, climbTime));  
}
```

**Part (b):**

```
public void addClimb(String peakName, int climbTime) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < this.climbList.size(); i++) {  
        if (peakName.compareTo(this.climbList.get(i).getName()) <= 0) {  
            this.climbList.add(i, new ClimbInfo(peakName, climbTime));  
            return;  
        }  
    }  
    this.climbList.add(new ClimbInfo(peakName, climbTime));  
}
```

**Part (c):**

NO

YES

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.

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## Question 2: RetroBug (GridWorld)

<b>Class:</b>	RetroBug	<b>9 points</b>
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**Intent:** Define extension to `Bug` class that implements a `restore` method to revert to previous location and direction

- +1 Provides properly formed class header for `RetroBug` that extends `Bug` class
- +1 Overrides at least one `Bug` method, other than constructor, and maintains all `Bug` behaviors
- +2 Saves state at beginning of `act`
  - +1 Remembers location or direction in `RetroBug` instance variable at beginning of `act` method and nowhere else  
(*point awarded only if instance variable is explicitly declared*)
  - +1 Remembers both location and direction in `RetroBug` instance variables
- +5 Implements `restore`
  - +½ Provides correct method header: `public void restore()`
  - +½ Guards against any effect if called before first invocation of `act`
  - +1 Always restores remembered direction
  - +1 Moves to remembered location
  - +1 Moves if remembered location is empty (*must check for empty location*)
  - +1 Moves if remembered location is occupied only by a flower  
(*must check for flower at location*)

<b>Question-Specific Penalties</b>
------------------------------------

- 1 (r) Use of `"RetroBug."` instead of `"this."`
- 1 (v) Confused use of location and direction  
(*e.g., saved location used as direction and vice versa*)
- 1 (z) Attempts to return a value from `restore`
- 0 Missing `public` qualifier on class header

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## Question 2: RetroBug (GridWorld)

```
public class RetroBug extends Bug {
    Location savedLocation;
    int savedDirection;

    public void act() {
        savedLocation = getLocation();
        savedDirection = getDirection();
        super.act();
    }

    public void restore() {
        if (savedLocation == null) return;
        setDirection(savedDirection);
        if ( getGrid().get(savedLocation) == null
            || getGrid().get(savedLocation) instanceof Flower ) {
            moveTo(savedLocation);
        }
    }
}
```

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## 2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 3: Horse Barn

<b>Part (a)</b>	<code>findHorseSpace</code>	<b>4 points</b>
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**Intent:** *Return index of space containing horse with specified name*

- +1 *Accesses all entries in `spaces` (no bounds errors)*
- +1 *Checks for `null` reference in array and avoids dereferencing it (in context of loop)*
- +1 *Checks for name equality between array element and parameter (must use `String` equality check)*
- +1 *Returns correct index, if present; -1 point if not*

<b>Part (b)</b>	<code>consolidate</code>	<b>5 points</b>
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**Intent:** *Repopulate `spaces` such that the order of all non-`null` entries is preserved and all `null` entries are found contiguously at the largest indices*

- +1 *Accesses all entries in `spaces` (no bounds errors)*
- +1 *Identifies and provides different treatment of `null` and non-`null` elements in array*
- +1 *Assigns element in array to a smaller index (must have identified source as non-`null` or destination as `null`)*
- +1 *On exit: The number, integrity, and order of all identified non-`null` elements in `spaces` is preserved, and the number of `null` elements is preserved*
- +1 *On exit: All non-`null` elements in `spaces` are in contiguous locations, beginning at index 0 (no destruction of data)*

<b>Question-Specific Penalties</b>
------------------------------------

- 1 *(z) Attempts to return a value from `consolidate`*
- 2 *(v) Consistently uses incorrect array name instead of `spaces`*

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## 2012 CANONICAL SOLUTIONS

### Question 3: Horse Barn

#### Part (a):

```
public int findHorseSpace(String name) {
    for (int i = 0; i < this.spaces.length; i++) {
        if (this.spaces[i] != null && name.equals(this.spaces[i].getName())) {
            return i;
        }
    }
    return -1;
}
```

#### Part (b):

```
public void consolidate() {
    for (int i = 0; i < this.spaces.length-1; i++) {
        if (this.spaces[i] == null) {
            for (int j = i+1; j < this.spaces.length; j++) {
                if (this.spaces[j] != null) {
                    this.spaces[i] = this.spaces[j];
                    this.spaces[j] = null;
                    j = this.spaces.length;
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

#### Part (b): Alternative solution (auxiliary with array)

```
public void consolidate() {
    Horse[] newSpaces = new Horse[this.spaces.length];
    int nextSpot = 0;
    for (Horse nextHorse : this.spaces) {
        if (nextHorse != null) {
            newSpaces[nextSpot] = nextHorse;
            nextSpot++;
        }
    }
    this.spaces = newSpaces;
}
```

#### Part (b): Alternative solution (auxiliary with ArrayList)

```
public void consolidate() {
    List<Horse> horseList = new ArrayList<Horse>();
    for (Horse h : this.spaces) {
        if (h != null) horseList.add(h);
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < this.spaces.length; i++) {
        this.spaces[i] = null;
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < horseList.size(); i++) {
        this.spaces[i] = horseList.get(i);
    }
}
```

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## Question 4: GrayImage

<b>Part (a)</b>	<code>countWhitePixels</code>	<b>4 points</b>
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**Intent:** *Return the number of white pixels in the image*

- +1 Accesses all entries in `pixelValues` (*no bounds errors*)
- +1 Compares an entry of array with `WHITE` or with 255 in context of iteration
- +1 Initializes and increments a counter
- +1 Returns correct count of number of white pixels in `pixelValues`

<b>Part (b)</b>	<code>processImage</code>	<b>5 points</b>
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**Intent:** *Process elements of `pixelValues` and apply specified formula*

- +1 Accesses all necessary elements in at least one row or one column of `pixelValues`
- +1 Accesses all necessary elements of `pixelValues` (*no bounds errors*)
- +1 Decrements element at index `[a][b]` by the original value found in element at index `[a+2][b+2]`
- +1 Modifies all and only appropriate elements of `pixelValues` (*changes must not affect last two rows and columns*)
- +1 Assigns `BLACK` or 0 to elements of `pixelValues` that would otherwise have a value less than `BLACK` (negative value)

<b>Question-Specific Penalties</b>
------------------------------------

- 1 (z) Attempts to return a value from `processImage`

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## 2012 CANONICAL SOLUTIONS

### Question 4: GrayImage

**Part (a):**

```
public int countWhitePixels() {
    int whitePixelCount = 0;
    for (int[] row : this.pixelValues) {
        for (int pv : row) {
            if (pv == this.WHITE) {
                whitePixelCount++;
            }
        }
    }
    return whitePixelCount;
}
```

**Part (a):** Alternative solution

```
public int countWhitePixels() {
    int whitePixelCount = 0;
    for (int row = 0; row < pixelValues.length; row++) {
        for (int col = 0; col < pixelValues[0].length; col++) {
            if (pixelValues[row][col] == WHITE) {
                whitePixelCount++;
            }
        }
    }
    return whitePixelCount;
}
```

**Part (b):**

```
public void processImage() {
    for (int row = 0; row < this.pixelValues.length-2; row++) {
        for (int col = 0; col < this.pixelValues[0].length-2; col++) {
            this.pixelValues[row][col] -= this.pixelValues[row+2][col+2];
            if (this.pixelValues[row][col] < BLACK) {
                this.pixelValues[row][col] = BLACK;
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**Part (b):** Alternative solution

```
public void processImage() {
    for (int row = 0; row < this.pixelValues.length; row++) {
        for (int col = 0; col < this.pixelValues[0].length; col++) {
            if (row + 2 < pixelValues.length &&
                col + 2 < pixelValues[0].length) {
                this.pixelValues[row][col] -= this.pixelValues[row+2][col+2];
                if (this.pixelValues[row][col] < BLACK) {
                    this.pixelValues[row][col] = BLACK;
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

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.