

Ninth Edition

Be Prepared for the



Computer Science Exam in Java

Chapter 5: Annotated Solutions to Past Free-Response Questions

2018

Maria Litvin

Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts

Gary Litvin

Skylight Publishing, Andover, Massachusetts

Skylight Publishing Andover, Massachusetts

Copyright © 2026 by Maria Litvin, Gary Litvin, and Skylight Publishing

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the authors and Skylight Publishing.

ISBN 978-0-9972528-3-5

Skylight Publishing 9 Bartlet Street, Suite 70 Andover, MA 01810

web: www.skylit.com e-mail: sales@skylit.com support@skylit.com

The free-response questions for this exam are posted on apstudent.collegeboard.org and, for teachers, on AP Central:

- For students: apstudent.collegeboard.org
- For teachers: apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses

Scoring guidelines are usually posted over the summer.

The www.skylit.com/beprepared/x2018all.zip file contains complete Java classes that include solutions and test programs for runnable projects.

Part (a)

```
public boolean simulate()
{
  int pos = 0;
  for (int hops = 0; hops < maxHops; hops++) 1
  {
    pos += hopDistance();
    if (pos >= goalDistance)
        return true;
    else if (pos < 0)
        return false;
  }
  return false;
}</pre>
```

Notes:

1. Or, if you prefer,

```
for (int hops = 1; hops <= maxHops; hops++)</pre>
```

Part (b)

```
public double runSimulations(int num)
{
  int count = 0; 1

  for (int n = 0; n < num; n++)
    if (simulate())
      count++;

  return (double)count / num;
}</pre>
```

Notes:

1. Some people prefer double count = 0; to avoid the cast in the final ratio.

Part (a)

```
public WordPairList(String[] words)
{
  allPairs = new ArrayList<WordPair>();

  for (int i = 0; i < words.length - 1; i++)
    for (int j = i+1; j < words.length; j++)
      allPairs.add(new WordPair(words[i], words[j]));
}</pre>
```

Part (b)

Notes:

1. The WordPair class in the question does not show or mention any fields. Fields are required to hold the first and the second words of the pair, and these fields must be private. For example,

```
private String first, second;
Or:
   private String[] words;
```

Regardless of how the fields are defined in WordPair, you cannot refer to them directly in your solution in WordPairList code because the fields are private in WordPair. You must call the getFirst and getLast accessor methods..

```
public class CodeWordChecker implements StringChecker
 private int minLength, maxLength;
 private String excluded;
 public CodeWordChecker(int min, int max, String str)
   minLength = min;
   maxLength = max;
    excluded = str;
 public CodeWordChecker(String str)
   minLength = 6;
   maxLength = 20;
    excluded = str;
  public boolean isValid(String str)
    return str.length() >= minLength && str.length() <=</pre>
                    maxLength && str.indexOf(excluded) == -1;
 } 2
}
```

Notes:

1. You can write simply

```
public CodeWordChecker(String str)
{
  this(6, 20, str);
}
```

and receive full credit, even though calling another constructor of the same class using this is not in the AP subset.

2. Or:

Part (a)

```
public static int[] getColumn(int[][] arr2D, int c)
{
  int[] column = new int[arr2D.length];

  for (int r = 0; r < column.length; r++)
     column[r] = arr2D[r][c];

  return column;
}</pre>
```

Part (b)

```
public static boolean isLatin(int[][] square)
{
  if (containsDuplicates(square[0]))
    return false;

  for (int r = 1; r < square.length; r++)
    if (!hasAllValues(square[0], square[r]))
      return false;

  for (int c = 0; c < square[0].length; c++) 1
    if (!hasAllValues(square[0], getColumn(square, c)))
      return false;

  return true;
}</pre>
```

Notes:

1. Or for (int c = 0; c < square.length; c++)

since square is a square array.

2. Or a little shorter, combining the two loops into one (as proposed by Doug Vermes):

```
public static boolean isLatin(int[][] square)
{
  if (containsDuplicates(square[0]))
    return false;
  for (int i = 0; i < square.length; i++)
    if (!hasAllValues(square[0], square[i]) ||
       !hasAllValues(square[0], getColumn(square, i)))
    return false;

return true;
}</pre>
```