General Grading Criteria for Java Programs

1. Programs must compile and run error-free
2. Programs must meet all program specifications
3. Source code formatting
   a. Use of blank lines to increase readability
   b. Proper use of indentation to delineate blocks of code
   c. Indenting to include lining up { and its matching } vertically.
   d. If multiple levels of nesting, comment the closing } as to what block it is closing
   e. Type lines to avoid having to scroll horizontally to see a line of code
4. Conventions for capitalization
   a. Constants: all capitals, example: TAXRATE
   b. Classes: first letter capitalized, example: Wages
   c. Variables: first letter small, first letter of each embedded word capitalized, example: hoursWorked
5. Naming
   a. Methods: usually verbs, indicates what method does
   b. Variables: descriptive of purpose
   c. Objects: usually nouns, descriptive of what it is
   d. Name of program/main method: (where N is the program number)

      FirstnameLastnameProgramN.java

   e. Avoid using the same identifier (i.e. name) for variables in different scopes
6. Comments
   a. Beginning of source file: student name, program number, program description, date
   b. Throughout: comments describing variables, blocks of code, behavior of methods
7. Programming
   a. Proper choice of data type for all variables and constants
   b. Descriptive output that would make sense to a user of the program who has no knowledge of how the program works:
      i. Echo data input
      ii. Label all data output
      iii. Output currency values preceded with a $
   c. Prompt user for all input and where appropriate indicate valid possible responses
   d. Validate all input values appropriate for the data type

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