

A brick wall on the left side of a blue background. The bricks are reddish-brown with white mortar. The wall is on the left side of the slide, and the blue background is on the right side.

Building Java Programs

Chapter 3: Parameters, Return, and Interactive Programs with Scanner

Chapter outline

- parameters
 - passing parameters to static methods
 - writing methods that accept parameters
- methods that return values
 - calling methods that return values (e.g. the `Math` class)
 - writing methods that return values
- console input with `Scanner` objects



Parameters

reading: 3.1

A redundant solution

```
public class Stars1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        drawLineOf13Stars();
        drawLineOf7Stars();
        drawLineOf35Stars();
        draw10x3Box();
        draw5x4Box();
    }

    public static void drawLineOf13Stars() {
        for (int i = 1; i <= 13; i++) {
            System.out.print("*");
        }
        System.out.println();
    }

    public static void drawLineOf7Stars() {
        for (int i = 1; i <= 7; i++) {
            System.out.print("*");
        }
        System.out.println();
    }

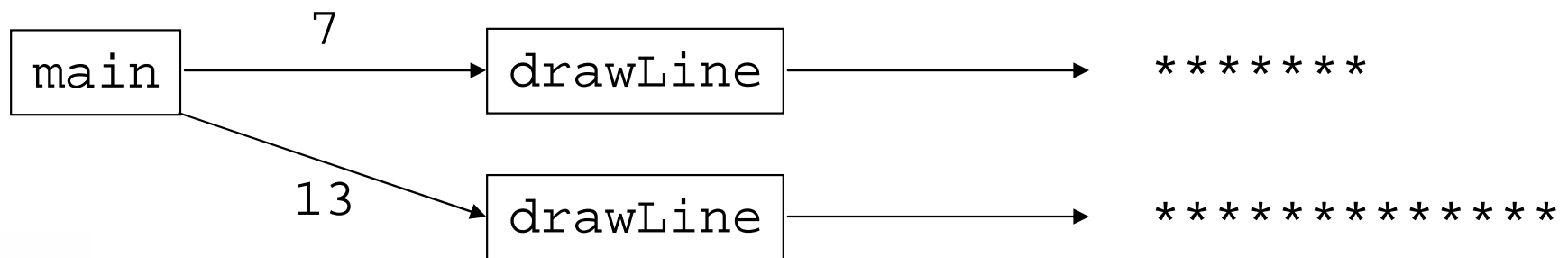
    public static void drawLineOf35Stars() {
        for (int i = 1; i <= 35; i++) {
            System.out.print("*");
        }
        System.out.println();
    }

    ...
}
```

- The methods at left are redundant.
- Would constants help us solve this problem?
- What would be a better solution?
 - drawLine - A method to draw a line of any number of stars.
 - drawBox - A method to draw a box of any size.

Parameterization

- **parameterized method:** One that is given extra information (e.g. number of stars to draw) when it is called.
- **parameter:** A value passed to a method by its caller.
- Writing parameterized methods requires 2 steps:
 - *declare* the method to accept the parameter
 - *call* the method and pass the parameter value(s) desired



Declaring parameterized methods

- Parameterized method declaration syntax:

```
public static void <name> ( <type> <name> ) {  
    <statement(s)> ;  
}
```

- Example:

```
public static void printSpaces(int count) {  
    for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {  
        System.out.print(" ");  
    }  
}
```

- Whenever `printSpaces` is called, the caller must specify how many spaces to print.

Calling parameterized methods

- **passing a parameter:** Calling a parameterized method and specifying a value for its parameter(s).
- Parameterized method call syntax:

<name> (**<expression>**);

- Example:

```
System.out.print( "*" );  
printSpaces(7);  
System.out.print( "**" );  
int x = 3 * 5;  
printSpaces(x + 2);  
System.out.println( "***" );
```

Output:

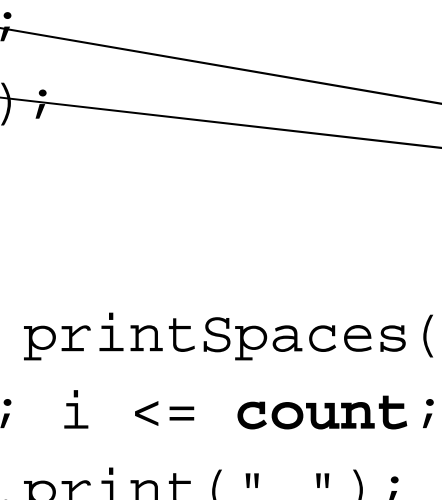
*

**

How parameters are passed

- When the parameterized method call executes:
 - the value written is copied into the parameter variable
 - the method's code executes using that value

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    printSpaces(7);  
    printSpaces(13);  
}
```



```
public static void printSpaces(int count) {  
    for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {  
        System.out.print(" ");  
    }  
}
```

Value semantics

- **value semantics:** When primitive variables (`int`, `double`) are passed as parameters, their values are copied.
 - Modifying the parameter inside the method will not affect the variable passed in.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    int x = 23;  
    strange(x);  
    System.out.println("2. x = " + x);    // unchanged  
    ...  
}
```

```
public static void strange(int x) {  
    x = x + 1;  
    System.out.println("1. x = " + x);  
}
```

Output:

```
1. x = 24  
2. x = 23
```

Common errors

- If a method accepts a parameter, it is illegal to call it without passing any value for that parameter.

```
printSpaces(); // ERROR: parameter value required
```

- The value passed to a method must be of the correct type, matching the type of its parameter variable.

```
printSpaces(3.7); // ERROR: must be of type int
```

- Exercise: Change the Stars program to use a parameterized static method for drawing lines of stars.

Stars solution

```
// Prints several lines of stars.  
// Uses a parameterized method to remove redundancy.  
  
public class Stars2 {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        drawLine(13);  
        drawLine(7);  
        drawLine(35);  
    }  
  
    // Prints the given number of stars plus a line break.  
    public static void drawLine(int count) {  
        for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {  
            System.out.print("*");  
        }  
        System.out.println();  
    }  
}
```

Multiple parameters

- Methods can accept multiple parameters.
 - When the method is called, you must pass values for each parameter.

- Multiple parameters declaration syntax:

```
public static void <name> ( <type> <name> ,  
    <type> <name> , ... , <type> <name> ) {  
    <statement(s)> ;  
}
```

- Multiple parameters call syntax:

```
<name> ( <expression> , <expression> , ... , <expression> ) ;
```

Multiple parameters example

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    printNumber(4, 9);  
    printNumber(17, 6);  
    printNumber(8, 0);  
    printNumber(0, 8);  
}  
  
public static void printNumber(int number, int count) {  
    for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {  
        System.out.print(number);  
    }  
    System.out.println();  
}
```

Output:

```
4444444444  
171717171717  
  
00000000
```

- Exercise: Write an improved Stars program that draws boxes of stars using parameterized static methods.

Stars solution

```
// Prints several lines and boxes made of stars.  
// Third version with multiple parameterized methods.  
  
public class Stars3 {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        drawLine(13);  
        drawLine(7);  
        drawLine(35);  
        System.out.println();  
        drawBox(10, 3);  
        drawBox(5, 4);  
        drawBox(20, 7);  
    }  
  
    // Prints the given number of stars plus a line break.  
    public static void drawLine(int count) {  
        for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {  
            System.out.print("*");  
        }  
        System.out.println();  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

Stars solution, cont'd.

...

```
// Prints a box of stars of the given size.
public static void drawBox(int width, int height) {
    drawLine(width);

    for (int i = 1; i <= height - 2; i++) {
        System.out.print("*");
        printSpaces(width - 2);
        System.out.println("*");
    }

    drawLine(width);
}

// Prints the given number of spaces.
public static void printSpaces(int count) {
    for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++) {
        System.out.print(" ");
    }
}
}
```


Parameter "mystery" problem

- What is the output of the following program?

```
public class Mystery {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int x = 5, y = 9, z = 2;  
        mystery(z, y, x);  
        System.out.println(x + " " + y + " " + z);  
        mystery(y, x, z);  
        System.out.println(x + " " + y + " " + z);  
    }  
}
```



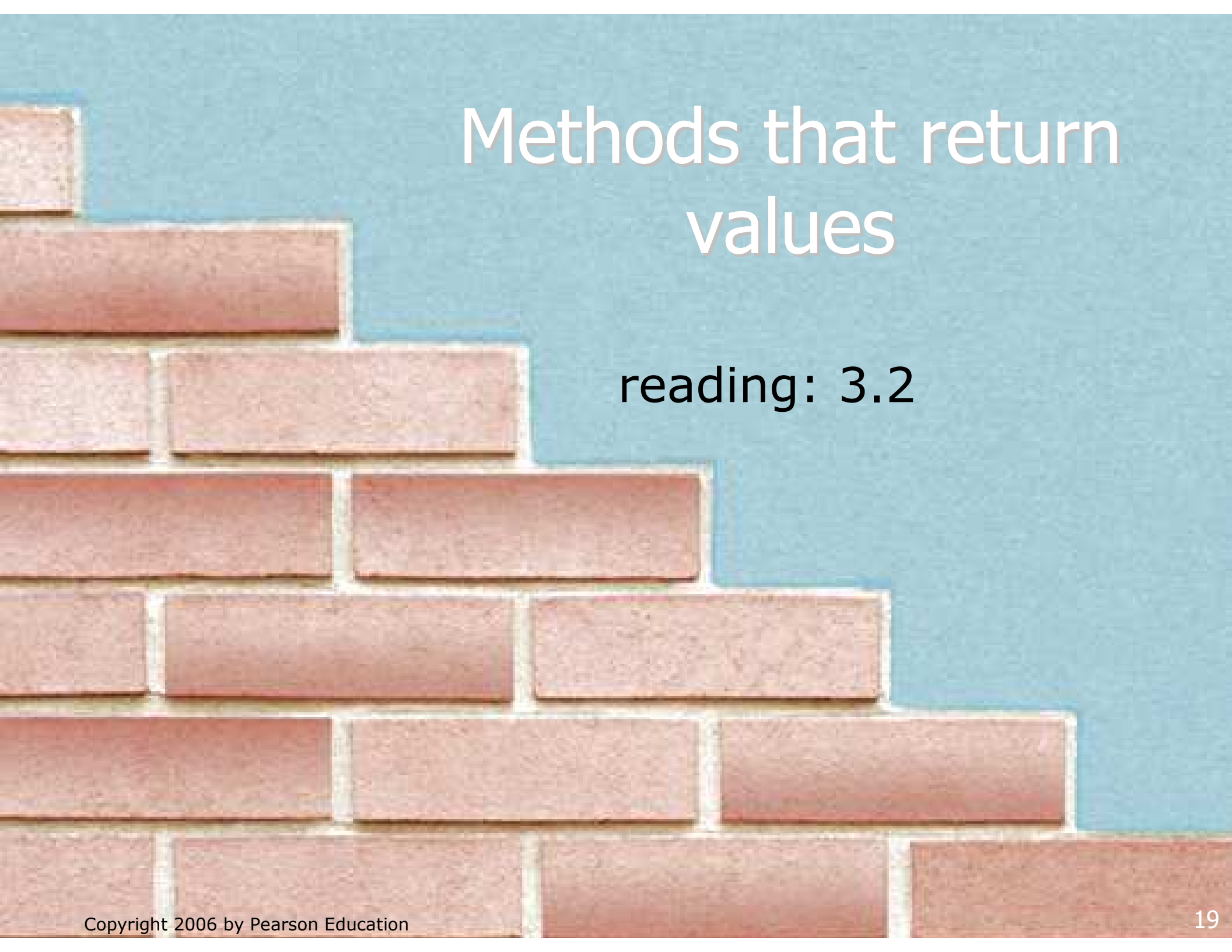
```
public static void mystery(int x, int z, int y) {  
    x++;  
    y = x - z * 2;  
    x = z + 1;  
    System.out.println(x + " " + y + " " + z);  
}
```

Parameter questions

- Write a method named `printDiamond` that accepts a height as a parameter and prints a diamond figure:

```
*  
* * *  
* * * * *  
* * *  
*
```

- Write a method named `multiplicationTable` that accepts a maximum integer as a parameter and prints a table of multiplication from 1 x 1 up to that integer times itself.
- Write a method named `bottlesOfBeer` that accepts an integer as a parameter and prints the "XX Bottles of Beer" song with that many verses.

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Methods that return values

reading: 3.2

Java's Math class

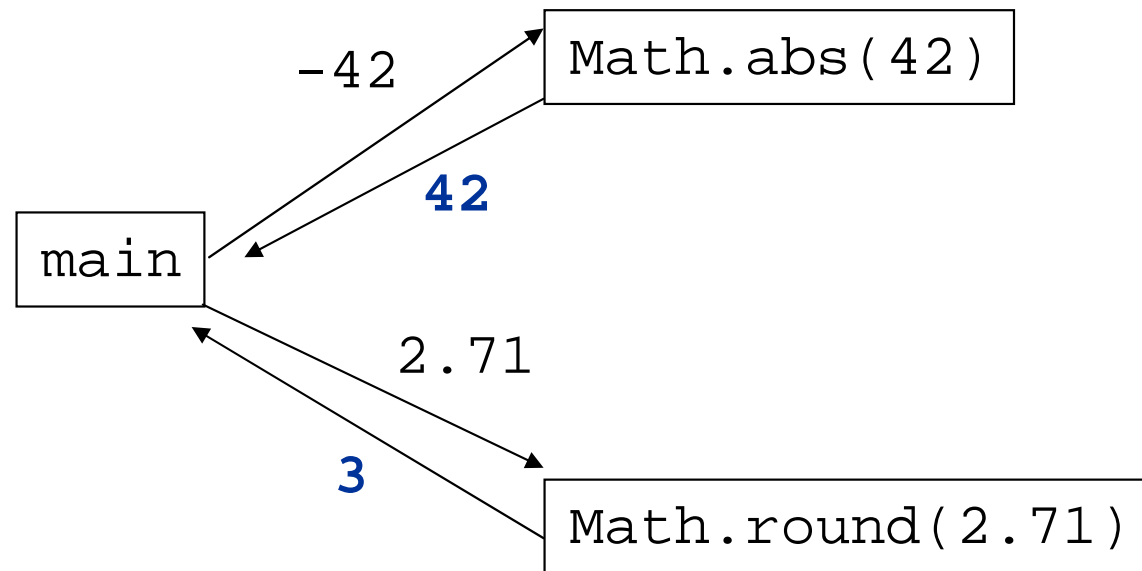
- Java has a class named `Math` with useful static methods and constants for performing calculations.

Method name	Description
<code>abs(<i>value</i>)</code>	absolute value
<code>ceil(<i>value</i>)</code>	rounds up
<code>cos(<i>value</i>)</code>	cosine, in radians
<code>floor(<i>value</i>)</code>	rounds down
<code>log(<i>value</i>)</code>	logarithm, base <i>e</i>
<code>log10(<i>value</i>)</code>	logarithm, base 10
<code>max(<i>value1</i>, <i>value2</i>)</code>	larger of two values
<code>min(<i>value1</i>, <i>value2</i>)</code>	smaller of two values
<code>pow(<i>base</i>, <i>exponent</i>)</code>	<i>base</i> to the <i>exponent</i> power
<code>random()</code>	random double between 0 and 1
<code>round(<i>value</i>)</code>	nearest whole number
<code>sin(<i>value</i>)</code>	sine, in radians
<code>sqrt(<i>value</i>)</code>	square root

Constant	Description
<code>E</code>	2.7182818...
<code>PI</code>	3.1415926...

Methods that return values

- **return:** To send a value out as the result of a method, which can be used in an expression.
 - A return is like the opposite of a parameter:
 - Parameters pass information *in* from the caller to the method.
 - Return values pass information *out* from a method to its caller.



- The `Math` methods do not print results to the console.
 - Instead, each method evaluates to produce (or *return*) a numeric result, which can be used in an expression.

Math method examples

- Math method call syntax:

Math. **<method name>** (**<parameter(s)>**)

- Examples:

```
double squareRoot = Math.sqrt(121.0);  
System.out.println(squareRoot);           // 11.0
```

```
int absoluteValue = Math.abs(-50);  
System.out.println(absoluteValue);        // 50
```

```
System.out.println(Math.min(3, 7) + 2);   // 5
```

- Notice that the preceding calls are used in expressions; they can be printed, stored into a variable, etc.

Math method questions

- Evaluate the following expressions:
 - `Math.abs(-1.23)`
 - `Math.pow(3, 2)`
 - `Math.pow(10, -2)`
 - `Math.sqrt(121.0) - Math.sqrt(256.0)`
 - `Math.round(Math.PI) + Math.round(Math.E)`
 - `Math.ceil(6.022) + Math.floor(15.9994)`
 - `Math.abs(Math.min(-3, -5))`
- `Math.max` and `Math.min` can be used to bound numbers. Consider an `int` variable named `age`.
 - What statement would replace negative ages with 0?
 - What statement would cap the maximum age to 40?

Methods that return values

- Syntax for declaring a method that returns a value:

```
public static <type> <name> ( <parameter(s)> ) {  
    <statement(s)> ;  
    ...  
    return <expression> ;  
}
```

- Example:

```
// Returns the slope of the line between the given points.  
public static double slope(int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2) {  
    double dy = y2 - y1;  
    double dx = x2 - x1;  
    return dy / dx;  
}
```


Return examples

```
// Converts Fahrenheit to Celsius.
public static double fToC(double degreesF) {
    double degreesC = 5.0 / 9.0 * (degreesF - 32);
    return degreesC;
}

// Computes length of triangle hypotenuse given its side lengths.
public static double hypotenuse(int a, int b) {
    double c = Math.sqrt(a * a + b * b);
    return c;
}

// Rounds the given number to two decimal places.
// Example: round(2.71828183) returns 2.72.
public static double round2(double value) {
    double result = value * 100.0; // upscale the number
    result = Math.round(result); // round to nearest integer
    result = result / 100.0; // downscale the number
    return result;
}
```

Return examples shortened

```
// Converts Fahrenheit to Celsius.
public static double fToC(double degreesF) {
    return 5.0 / 9.0 * (degreesF - 32);
}

// Computes length of triangle hypotenuse given its side lengths.
public static double hypotenuse(int a, int b) {
    return Math.sqrt(a * a + b * b);
}

// Rounds the given number to two decimal places.
// Example: round(2.71828183) returns 2.72.
public static double round2(double value) {
    return Math.round(value * 100.0) / 100.0;
}
```

Return questions

- Write a method named `area` that accepts a circle's radius as a parameter and returns its area.
 - You may wish to use the constant `Math.PI` in your solution.
- Write a method named `attendance` that accepts a number of lectures attended by a student, and returns how many points a student receives for attendance.
 - The student receives 2 points for each of the first 5 lectures and 1 point for each subsequent lecture.

Return questions 2

- Write a method named `distanceFromOrigin` that accepts `x` and `y` coordinates as parameters and returns the distance between that `(x, y)` point and the origin.
- Write a method named `medianOf3` that accepts 3 integers as parameters and returns the middle value. For example, `medianOf3(4, 2, 7)` should return 4.
 - Hint: Use methods from the `Math` class in your solution.

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Interactive programs using Scanner objects

reading: 3.4

Interactive programs

- We have written programs that print console output.
- It is also possible to read *input* from the console.
 - The user types the input into the console.
 - We can capture the input and use it in our program.
 - Such a program is called an *interactive program*.
- Interactive programs can be challenging:
 - Computers and users think in very different ways.
 - Users tend to misbehave.

Input and System.in

- We print output using an object named `System.out`
 - This object has methods named `println` and `print`.
- We read input using an object named `System.in`
 - `System.in` is not intended to be used directly.
 - We will use a second object, from a class called `Scanner`, to help us read input from `System.in`.
- Constructing a `Scanner` object to read console input:

```
Scanner <name> = new Scanner(System.in);
```

 - Example:

```
Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);
```
 - Once we have constructed the `Scanner`, we call various methods on it to read the input from the user.

Scanner methods

- Methods of `Scanner` that we will use in this chapter:

Method	Description
<code>nextInt()</code>	reads and returns user input as an <code>int</code>
<code>nextDouble()</code>	reads and returns user input as a <code>double</code>
<code>next()</code>	reads and returns user input as a <code>String</code>

- Each of these methods pauses your program until the user types input and presses Enter.
 - The value typed is *returned* to your program.
- **prompt:** A message printed to the user, telling them what input to type, before we read from the `Scanner`.

- Example:

```
System.out.print("How old are you? "); // prompt
int age = console.nextInt();
System.out.println("You'll be 40 in " + (40 - age)
    + " years.");
```


Java class libraries, import

- **Java class libraries:** A large set of Java classes available for you to use (part of the JDK).
 - These objects are organized into groups named *packages*.
 - To use the objects from a package, you must include an *import declaration* at the top of your program.

- Import declaration, general syntax:

```
import <package name> .*;
```

- `Scanner` is in a package named `java.util`
 - To use `Scanner`, put this at the start of your program:

```
import java.util.*;
```

Input tokens

- **token:** A unit of user input, as read by the Scanner.
 - Tokens are separated by whitespace (spaces, tabs, new lines).
 - How many tokens appear on the following line of input?
23 John Smith 42.0 "Hello world"
- When the token doesn't match the type the Scanner tries to read, the program crashes.

Example:

```
System.out.print("What is your age? ");  
int age = console.nextInt();
```

Output (user's input is underlined):

```
What is your age? Timmy  
java.util.InputMismatchException  
    at java.util.Scanner.throwFor(Unknown Source)  
    at java.util.Scanner.next(Unknown Source)  
    at java.util.Scanner.nextInt(Unknown Source)  
    ...
```

Example Scanner usage

```
import java.util.*;    // so that I can use Scanner

public class ReadSomeInput {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("What is your first name? ");
        String name = console.next();

        System.out.print("And how old are you? ");
        int age = console.nextInt();

        System.out.println(name + " is " + age);
        System.out.println("That's quite old!");
    }
}
```

■ Output (user input underlined):

```
What is your first name? Ruth
How old are you? 14
Ruth is 14
That's quite old!
```

Another Scanner example

```
import java.util.*;    // so that I can use Scanner

public class Average {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Please type three numbers: ");
        int num1 = console.nextInt();
        int num2 = console.nextInt();
        int num3 = console.nextInt();

        double average = (double) (num1 + num2 + num3) / 3;
        System.out.println("The average is " + average);
    }
}
```

- Output (user input underlined):

```
Please type three numbers: 8 6 13
The average is 9.0
```

- Notice that the Scanner can read multiple values from one line.

Scanners as parameters

- If multiple methods read user input, declare a Scanner in `main` and pass it to each of them as a parameter.
 - In this way, all of the methods share the same Scanner object.

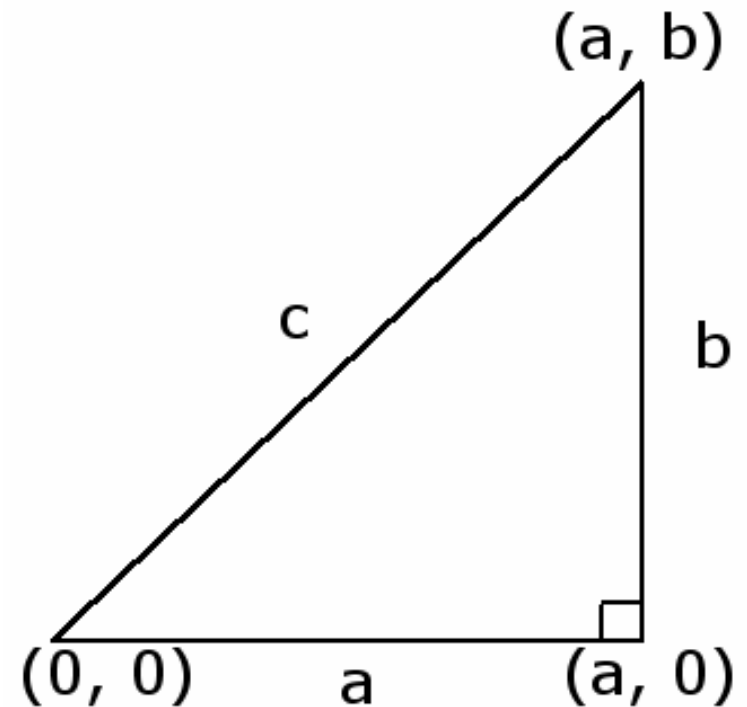
```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);  
    int sum = readSum3(console);  
    System.out.println("The sum is " + sum);  
}
```

```
public static int readSum3(Scanner console) {  
    System.out.print("Type 3 numbers: ");  
    int num1 = console.nextInt();  
    int num2 = console.nextInt();  
    int num3 = console.nextInt();  
    return num1 + num2 + num3;  
}
```

Scanner/Point question

- Write a program that computes a right triangle's perimeter.
 - The perimeter is the sum of the triangle's side lengths $a+b+c$.
 - Read values a and b and compute side length c as the distance between the points $(0, 0)$ and (a, b) .

```
side a? 12  
side b? 5  
perimeter is 30.0
```



Scanner/Point answer

```
import java.awt.*;    // for Point
import java.util.*;  // for Scanner

public class TrianglePerimeter {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("side a? ");
        int a = console.nextInt();
        System.out.print("side b? ");
        int b = console.nextInt();

        Point p1 = new Point();           // 0, 0
        Point p2 = new Point(a, b);
        double c = p1.distance(p2);
        double perimeter = a + b + c;
        System.out.println("perimeter is " + perimeter);
    }
}
```

Scanner BMI question

A person's body mass index (BMI) is computed by the following formula:

$$BMI = \frac{weight}{height^2} \times 703$$

- Write a program that produces the following output:

```
This program reads in data for two people
and computes their body mass index (BMI)
and weight status.
```

```
Enter next person's information:
height (in inches)? 62.5
weight (in pounds)? 130.5
```

```
Enter next person's information:
height (in inches)? 58.5
weight (in pounds)? 90
```

```
Person #1 body mass index = 23.485824
Person #2 body mass index = 18.487836949375414
Difference = 4.997987050624587
```


Scanner BMI solution

```
// This program computes two people's body mass index (BMI)
// and compares them. The code uses parameters and returns.

import java.util.*; // so that I can use Scanner

public class BMI {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        introduction();
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in);

        double bmi1 = processPerson(console);
        double bmi2 = processPerson(console);

        // report overall results
        System.out.println("Person #1 body mass index = " + bmi1);
        System.out.println("Person #2 body mass index = " + bmi2);
        double difference = Math.abs(bmi1 - bmi2);
        System.out.println("Difference = " + difference);
    }

    // prints a welcome message explaining the program
    public static void introduction() {
        System.out.println("This program reads in data for two people");
        System.out.println("and computes their body mass index (BMI)");
        System.out.println("and weight status.");
        System.out.println();
    }
    ...
}
```

Scanner BMI solution, cont.

...

```
// reads information for one person, computes their BMI, and returns it
public static double processPerson(Scanner console) {
    System.out.println("Enter next person's information:");
    System.out.print("height (in inches)? ");
    double height = console.nextDouble();

    System.out.print("weight (in pounds)? ");
    double weight = console.nextDouble();
    System.out.println();

    double bmi = getBMI(height, weight);
    return bmi;
}

// Computes a person's body mass index based on their height and weight
// and returns the BMI as its result.
public static double getBMI(double height, double weight) {
    double bmi = weight / (height * height) * 703;
    return bmi;
}
}
```