Tokens

What is a Token in CSE 311?

In CSE 311, there are no late days. The primary reason for this is that we want to grade as quickly as possible (because feedback is so important in this course), and we want to release solutions as soon as possible. To combat this, we allow you to use *tokens* during the quarter instead.

A token is a *chance for redemption* on a HW question. Through a re-submission with several extra pieces, if you demonstrate to us that you really understand where your solution went wrong, you can get back up to *all the points you lost on the original submission*.

Token Deadlines

There are *four* token deadlines throughout the quarter:

- Token Sign-up for HW1 - HW3: **Friday, October 27 11:30 PM**

- Token Completion for HW1 - HW3: **Friday, November 3 1:30 PM**

- Token Sign-up for HW4 - HW7: **Friday, December 1 11:30 PM**

- Token Completion for HW4 - HW7: **Friday, December 8 11:30 PM**

If you miss a sign-up deadline, you *may not use any tokens on those homeworks*. The reason the sign-up deadline exists is that we need to distribute materials to the people who are using tokens and we need about a day to do this. There will be no exceptions to this rule under any circumstances.

What Do I Have To Do?

(1) Sign up to use a token using the web application at https://grinch.cs.washington.edu/late before the "sign-up deadline".

(2) To use a token, you must submit the following materials:

- A corrected solution to the HW question you are using a token on. If you didn't originally submit anything for the question, then we still expect a solution here.

- Answers to the following reflective questions:
  - Why do you believe you got the question wrong?
  - What do you understand now that you didn't previously?
  - What advice would you give to someone who is approaching this question for the first time?

  If you didn't originally submit an answer to the question, we still expect answers to the second and third questions here. For the first one, you should mention that you didn't originally submit it.

- Completion of two "verifications" to be submitted along with your new solution. You are very likely wondering what a verification is at this point. Please read the next section carefully to understand what to do here.

(3) Submit your materials on Canvas as a re-submission. You should include all three pieces. If you omit any of the three pieces, your score for the question will remain unchanged after re-submission.

What is a Verification?

One way of demonstrating that you understand a problem is by correcting someone else's work. In fact, most students find that they get much better at the material for a course just by grading for it! If you decide to use a token on a question, you will be given two (anonymous) solutions to the question. These are real solutions that your peers submitted (again, completely anonymous).

Your job is to explain anything you can find that is wrong with the submission: style, correctness, clarity, anything. Depending on the question, you might be given a partial list of things to look for. It is worth noting in advance that this is *difficult*, but by doing this, you can (a) demonstrate that you really understand the solution, and (b) you can get significantly better at solving similar problems.

We promise that solutions will be anonymous (and as much as possible, we will use typeset solutions to avoid handwriting recognition). By using a token, you are implicitly agreeing to let us use your solution for this purpose. If you for some reason *really* do not want your solution to be used, let Adam know via e-mail, and it will be taken out of the pool.

We expect you to annotate the two submissions you are given directly on the submission. You may either use PDF annotation software or print it out and scan it back in. Please make it as easy as possible for us to understand where you believe the submission went wrong.

How Will It Be Graded?

Token re-submissions will be graded using the following rubric:

- Up to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the points you lost may be gained back by the actual corrected submission. If your re-submission is still incorrect, you will likely receive none of these points.

- Up to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the points you lost may be gained back by the reflection on what went wrong. We take this very seriously, because research shows that reflection on understanding is one of the most valuable learning techniques. Students who regularly reflect and try to understand what went wrong tend to do much better academically.

- Up to $\frac{1}{6}$ of the points you lost may be gained back for a *serious attempt* at both verifications. It will be clear to us if you actually tried or not. You may get these points back regardless of how correct your verifications are.

- Up to $\frac{1}{6}$ of the points you lost may be gained back for substantially correct verifications.