Lab 1 - Introduction to CodingBat

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Objective

This lab re-introduces you to the CodingBat web site - a source of great study problems for any introductory computer science student.

General Idea

The more one codes, the better one becomes at it. Starting with next week, you have an opportunity to earn points towards your final grade by completing CodingBat problems. The details are explained at the end of lab.

Instructions:

1. Start a web browser (not Eclipse) on your machine. Go to http://codingbat.com. [You may wish to bookmark this page.] Create an account using your Bonaventure email address and a password of your choice. Next, go to the "Preferences" tab (labeled "prefs") and edit your preferences. You do not need to change your password, but do edit your name as the suggestion indicates and ensure that your results are shared with me (andrianoff@sbu.edu). You are now ready to use CodingBat and you will not need to repeat these steps in the future (other than navigating to the website).

2. First, we'll explore a little bit about CodingBat. To begin, go to the Java page (click the "Java" link at the top of the page) and scroll down. There is a "Code Help and Video" section. How many videos are currently available?

3. Just to get a feel for it, we're going to watch the video "Java Substring v2". In lab, your speakers are disabled, so watching it will be tricky and as soon as everyone is ready, it will be played at the front of the room. If you're going back to this later, you're on your own.

4. There is a checkbox underneath the area where you write your code. Describe (specifically, by including column names) the effect of checking (or not checking) that box.

5. Okay, one more explanation. Explain the use of colors in a Progress Graph.

6. Go to the problem FrontTimes in the Warmup-2 section. Solve it. Start by proceeding as Nick did in the video and go only for the first three characters. Then, use that version as the first part of a version that solves the entire thing.

7. Examine the test cases that the site uses to test your code for FrontTimes. For each of them, explain why you think it was included.

8. Read the details concerning [Javabat and CS 132](#).

Hand in:

Hand in a cover page and a document answering the questions from Steps 1 through 7.

Due Date:

The report is due at 4 p.m. on Friday, January 17.

Assignment Type (see Academic Practices and Policies Document):

Help Policy in Effect for This Assignment: Individual Project with Limited Collaboration

In particular, you may discuss the assignment and concepts related to the assignment with the following persons, in addition to an instructor in this course: any member of your group; any St. Bonaventure Computer Science instructor; and any student enrolled in CS 132.

You may use the following materials produced by other students: materials produced by members of your group.