Object Oriented Programming – SCJ2153

Java Identifiers

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Identifiers

- All the Java components — classes, variables, and methods—need names.

- These programmer-defined names are called **identifiers**.

- There are **rules** for a legal Java identifier.

- Besides, Sun recommends Java programmers to follow the **Java code conventions** for easy maintenance and improve readability.

Rules for naming Identifiers

- Identifiers must start with a letter, a currency character ($), or a connecting character.

- After the first character, identifiers can contain any combination of letters, currency characters, connecting characters, or numbers. Other than these characters are not allowed.

- Identifier can be any length.

- Identifier cannot be a Java keyword.

- Identifiers in Java are case-sensitive.

- Identifier cannot be true, false or null.

Java Code Conventions
Class and Interface

- The first letter of a class or interface should be capitalized.
- If several words are linked together to form the name, use the "CamelCase" format (the first letter of the inner words should be uppercase)
- The name for class should be a noun:
  - `Employee`
  - `PartTimeStudent`
  - `AccountApp`
- The name for interface should be an adjective:
  - `Runnable`
  - `Serializable`
  - `Compatible`

Java Code Conventions Method

- The method names should typically be verb-noun pairs .

- The first letter should be in lowercase, and the inner words should be uppercase (follow the "CamelCase" format)

- Examples of method:
  - `getTotal`
  - `calcArea`
  - `setEmployeePosition`

Java Code Conventions Variable

- A variable name should be short and meaningful.

- The first letter should be in lowercase and follow the "CamelCase" format for words that are linked together.

- Examples of Java variables:
  - `nama`
  - `buttonWidth`
  - `accountBalance`
  - `myString`

Java Code Conventions Constant

- Java constants should be named using uppercase letters with underscore characters as separators.

- They are created by marking variables `static` **and** `final`.

- Examples of Java constants:
  - `MIN__HEIGHT`
  - `RATE`
  - `MAX_VALUE`