Programming language midterm examination (11/6/2001)

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t2.	1.	What is writability in the context of programming language? Describe the
		concept and give two examples on good/bad writability.

- 2. Describe the implementation method of Java. Is it interpreted or compiled? Hint: Despite that fact that Java applets can run in your browser, no matter which hardware platform you are using, does your browser support Java compilation?
 - 3. What does it mean by that a context-free grammar is ambiguous? Give an example and explain it in details.
- 4. Give a general description on how to convert an extended BNF into a syntax graph. Keep in mind that in an EBNF the grammar could have optional construct, repetition, and multiple choices. Explain your construction by giving a complete example.
 - 5. Explain the concept of the weakest precondition and give an example to explain the idea.
- 6. What is strong typing according to the textbook? Please indicate a feature or a mechanism such that a language becomes not strongly typed because of it.
 - 7. Is it possible that a variable is in its scope but not in its lifetime, or vise versus? Explain your answers in details.
- Explain the following concepts: static variables, stack-dynamic variables, explicit heap-dynamic variables, and implicit heap-dynamic variables. Give an example for each of them.
 - 9. Describe the array address calculation in details, especially when the array has multiple dimensions. What factor should you consider in the calculation?
 - 20. Both array and records are collection of related data. What is the fundamental difference between them?
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