

10.3 Files

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 31 marks**KEY WORDS** file 文件 • text file 文本文件 • end of file 文件结束 • record 记录

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **text files** 文本文件 — why files are needed, and reading and writing them in pseudocode.

You must be able to:

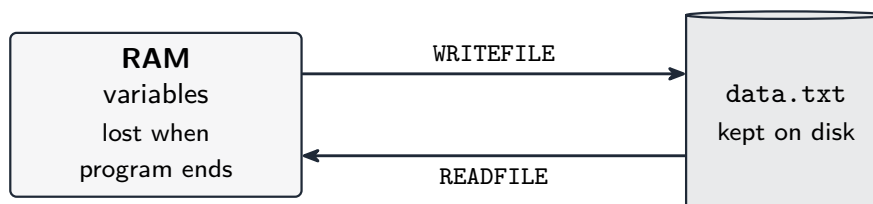
- explain **why** a program uses files
- write pseudocode to **read** a text file line by line using **EOF**
- write pseudocode to **write** or **append** lines to a text file

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a question type used later — follow the steps and you can do the Practice and Exam-style questions yourself.

■ Why files

Variables live in **RAM** and are lost when the program ends. A **file** on disk is **kept** between runs — so it stores data permanently (high scores, records) and lets programs share data.



■ Reading a text file

Open it, read each line until **end of file**, then **close** it:

```
OPENFILE "data.txt" FOR READ
WHILE NOT EOF("data.txt") DO
    READFILE "data.txt", LineString
    OUTPUT LineString
ENDWHILE
CLOSEFILE "data.txt"
```

EOF returns TRUE when there is nothing left to read — test it **before** each READFILE.

■ Writing and appending

FOR WRITE creates a new file (or **overwrites** an old one); FOR APPEND keeps the existing lines and adds after them:

```
OPENFILE "log.txt" FOR WRITE
FOR i ← 1 TO 100
    WRITEFILE "log.txt", "Event " & i
NEXT i
CLOSEFILE "log.txt"
```

Always **close** a file — otherwise buffered writes can be lost and the file may stay locked.

2 Practice

Now apply the methods above.

2.1 State **one** reason a program needs to use a file rather than only variables. [1]

2.2 State when the function EOF returns TRUE. [1]

2.3 Write pseudocode to **open** "scores.txt" for reading and then **close** it. [2]

2.4 State **one** reason you must always **close** a file. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Write pseudocode to read **every line** of `"names.txt"` and output each line. [4]

3.2 Write pseudocode to write the numbers **1 to 50**, one per line, to a new file `"nums.txt"`. [3]

3.3 A file `"members.txt"` holds one name per line. Write pseudocode to **count** how many names are in the file and output the total. [4]

3.4 A sports club stores one line per member in a text file `members.txt`. Each line holds the membership number, the surname and the class of membership, separated by the character `|`.

```
40118|Chen|Full  
40119|Osei|Junior
```

(a) **Explain** why a **separator** character is needed, and **state** one property the chosen character must have. [3]

(b) **Write** pseudocode for a procedure `CountClass(Wanted)` that reads the whole file and outputs how many members are in the class given by `Wanted`. [6]

(c) The club adds two new items for each member: a phone number and an emergency contact, **both encrypted**. **Explain** one problem this could cause for the file format, and **describe** how you would solve it. [3]

(d) **Compare** storing this data in a **serial** file with storing it in a **sequential** file ordered by membership number, for the task of finding one member. [3]
