

1 Variables and data types – Part 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

*Write each word three times.***English****Write it 3 times** (English)

variable

data type

expression

Recall

You may have written a little code before, or used a calculator app:

- A program stores values and does calculations with them.
- Numbers can be whole (like 5) or decimal (like 2.5).
- Text and numbers are different kinds of data.

This sheet lines up variables and data types in Java. Each idea has a worked example.

New ideas

■ 1 Variables

A **variable** is a named box that stores a value. You give it a type and a name, then a value:

```
int age = 16;  
double price = 2.5;
```

■ 2 Data types

A **data type** says what kind of value a variable holds:

integer	whole number: 7
real	decimal: 3.5
char	one letter: 'A'
string	text: "hello"
boolean	true or false

- `int` – a whole number,
- `double` – a decimal number,
- `boolean` – `true` or `false`,
- `String` – text.

■ 3 Expressions

An **expression** combines values with operators (+ - * / %) to compute a result.

Worked example. `3 + 4 * 2` is 11 (multiply before add), and `10 % 3` is 1 (the remainder).

■ 4 Integer division

When you divide two whole numbers, Java throws away the fractional part:

Worked example. `7 / 2` is 3 (not 3.5), but `7.0 / 2` is 3.5 (a decimal forces real division).

Watch out: dividing two `int` values **truncates** – `5 / 2` gives 2, not 2.5. To get a decimal, make one value a `double` first.

Practice

Try these in order. The methods are all above.

2.1 State what data type you would use for (a) a person's age, (b) their height in metres, (c) whether they passed. [3]

2.2 Evaluate $2 + 3 * 4$.

[2]

2.3 Evaluate $9 / 2$ and $9 \% 2$.

[2]

2.4 Evaluate $9.0 / 2$.

[1]

2.5 Explain why $1 / 2$ gives 0 in Java.

[2]