Programming

IGCSE Computer Science · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
variable /ˈveərɪəbl/	A **variable** stores a value that can change.
constant /ˈkɒnstənt/	A **constant** such as Pi never changes. Pi
declare /dɪˈkleə/	**Declare** a variable before you use it: int age; int age;
data type /ˈdeɪtə taɪp/	INTEGER is a **data type**. INTEGER
integer /ˈɪntɪdʒə/	An **integer** is a whole number, which can be positive, negative or zero.
real /rɪəl/	A **real** number has a decimal point.
char /tʃɑː/	A **char** holds one character.
string /strɪŋ/	“Hello” is a **string**. “Hello”
Boolean /ˈbuːlɪən/	A **Boolean** is either True or False. True False
input /ˈɪnpʊt/	input() reads **input** that the user types. input()
output /ˈaʊtpʊt/	The **output** of print(2 + 3) is 5. print(2 + 3) 5
sequence /ˈsiːkwəns/	In a **sequence**, the steps run one after another.
selection /sɪˈlekʃn/	An IF statement is a kind of **selection**. IF
iteration /ˌɪtəˈreɪʃn/	A loop is a kind of **iteration**.

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loop /luːp/	The **loop** runs ten times.
count-controlled loop /kaʊnt kənˈtrəʊld luːp/	A FOR loop is a **count-controlled loop**. FOR
pre-condition loop /priː kənˈdɪʃn luːp/	A WHILE loop is a **pre-condition loop**. WHILE
post-condition loop /pəʊst kənˈdɪʃn luːp/	A REPEAT loop is a **post-condition loop**. REPEAT
totalling /ˈtəʊtəlɪŋ/	**Totalling** adds up values in a loop.
counting /ˈkaʊntɪŋ/	**Counting** adds one each time something happens.
remainder /rɪˈmeɪndə/	14 divided by 5 leaves a **remainder** of 4. 14 5 4
nested statement /ˈnestɪd ˈsteɪtmənt/	A **nested statement** is an IF inside another IF. IF IF
substring /ˈsʌbstrɪŋ/	A **substring** is part of a string.
upper case /ˈʌpə keɪs/	“HELLO” is written in **upper case**. “HELLO”
lower case /ˈləʊə keɪs/	“hello” is written in **lower case**. “hello”
length /leŋθ/	Measure the **length** of the table with a ruler.
procedure /prəˈsiːdʒə/	A **procedure** is a named block of code.
function /ˈfʌŋkʃn/	A **function** returns a value.

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parameter /pəˈræmɪtə/	In PROCEDURE Greet(Name : STRING), Name is a **parameter**. PROCEDURE Greet(Name : STRING) Name
local variable /ˈləʊkl ˈveərɪəbl/	A **local variable** is used only inside its procedure.
global variable /ˈgləʊbl ˈveərɪəbl/	A **global variable** can be used anywhere in the program.
library routine /ˈlaɪbrəri ruːˈtiːn/	ROUND is a **library routine**: it is already written for you. ROUND
maintainable /meɪnˈteɪnəbl/	A **maintainable** program is easy to change later.
meaningful identifiers /ˈmiːnɪŋfl aɪˈdentɪfaɪəz/	Use **meaningful identifiers** like Total, not X. Total X
comments /ˈkɒments/	**Comments** explain what the code does.
array /əˈreɪ/	An **array** stores many values under one name.
index /ˈɪndeks/	Use **index** 3 to read the third item in the array. 3
one-dimensional (1D) array /wʌn daɪˈmenʃənl əˈreɪ/	A **one-dimensional (1D) array** is a single list of values.
two-dimensional (2D) array /tuː daɪˈmenʃənl əˈreɪ/	A **two-dimensional (2D) array** has rows and columns.
file /faɪl/	Save the scores in a **file**.

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