

Pseudocode Definitions and Examples

CONSTANT	Refers to creating a “special variable” that is a named constant with a set value that can not be changed during the program’s execution. (Tip: Use this statement instead of DECLARE for variables whose value can not be changed) Example: CONSTANT real interest_rate = 3.9
DECLARE Declare	Refers to creation of variable in memory. Variables must be created before they can be used. (Tip: Data can not be stored in a memory location that hasn’t been created, so therefore doesn’t exist.)
	Example : DECLARE datatype variable name DECLARE real weight Example : DECLARE datatype variable name = value DECLARE real weight = 0.0
DISPLAY Display	Refers to output that is DISPLAYED on the console or screen. Programming languages may use keyword such as WRITE, PRINT etc. to indicate output .
	Example : DISPLAY “ string literal would be written here between the double quotes” DISPLAY “ What is your first name” Example : DISPLAY variable DISPLAY firstname
INPUT	Refers to the data that has been read when entered.
	Example: INPUT variable INPUT firstname
SET (optional)	Refers to an assignment statement; assignment of data to be stored in a variable. Can be the result of a calculation that is created with math operators.
	Example: SET grossPay = hoursWorked * payRate Example: grossPay = hoursWorked * payRate

Rules and Important Terms

Variable Names	No spaces allowed No punctuation allowed Can not begin with a number Must be descriptive of data Can use underscore (Example: gross_pay) Can use camel casing (Example: grossPay) (Tip: All variable names are case sensitive (Example: Total is a different variable than total))
Data Type	Type of data being stored Real (decimal data - Example: 3.26) Integer (whole number – Example: 10) String (sequence of characters or a single character – Example: Yes or yes) (Tip: Programming languages have many different datatypes. For example a s single character may have the datatype Char (or character) to store a single character.
String Literal	String that appears in the actual code of a program. DISPLAY “ This is a string literal”
Math Operators	Addition +, Subtraction -, Multiplication *, Division /, Modulous MOD, Exponent ^
Numeric Literal	Number that appears in the actual code of your program Example : hourly_Rate = 10.00

Problem :

Calculate a baseball players batting average. The formula is

Batting Average = Hits / Times at Bat

TIP: Identify the I – P – O first by asking these questions:

What does the output need to be?

The output needs to be the player's batting average

What is the INPUT that we are given to work with?

The number of hits

The number of times at bat

What is the process ?

The process to find batting average is to divide number of hits by number of times at-bat

Algorithm: (informal instructions with a very particular and logical sequence of steps to solve the problem)

1. Get the data from the enduser by prompting for the number of hits and the number of times at-bat
2. Calculate the batting average by dividing the number of hits by the number of times at-bat
3. Display the output (value of batting average) on the screen.

Pseudocode:

1. // This program will calculate batting average
2. // Create the variables
3. DECLARE integer num_times_atbat
4. DECLARE integer hits
5. DECLARE real battingAverage
6. //Prompt the user for input
7. DISPLAY " Enter the number of times at bat"
8. INPUT num_times_atbat
9. DISPLAY " Enter the number of hits"
10. INPUT hits
11. // Calculate the batting average
12. SET battingAverage = hits / num_times_atbat
13. //Display the, hits, times at bat and the batting average
14. DISPLAY " The number of times at bat was" num_times_atbat
15. DISPLAY "The number of hits was" hits
16. DISPLAY " The batting average is" battingAverage