Appendix 2: AP Computer Science Principles Exam Reference Sheet

As AP[®] Computer Science Principles does not designate any particular programming language, this reference sheet provides instructions and explanations to help students understand the format and meaning of the questions they will see on the exam. The reference sheet includes two programming formats, text-based and block-based.

Programming instructions use four data types: numbers, Booleans, strings, and lists.

Instructions from any of the following categories may appear on the exam:

- Assignment, Display, and Input
- Arithmetic Operators and Numeric Procedures
- Relational and Boolean Operators
- Selection
- Iteration
- List Operations
- Procedures
- Robot

Instruction	Explanation	
Assignment, Dis	play, and Input	
Text:	Evaluates expression and assigns the	
$a \leftarrow expression$	result to the variable a.	
Block:		
a 🔶 expression		
Text:	Displays the value of expression,	
DISPLAY (expression)	followed by a space.	
Block:		
DISPLAY expression		
Text:	Accepts a value from the user and returns it.	
INPUT ()	From the second s	
Block:		
INPUT		
Arithmetic Operators and Numeric Procedures		
Text and Block:	The arithmetic operators $+$, $-$, $*$, and $/$ are	
a + b	used to perform arithmetic on a and b.	
a - b a * b	For example, 3 / 2 evaluates to 1.5.	
a / b		
Text and Block:	Evaluates to the remainder when a is divided	
a MOD b	by b. Assume that a and b are positive	
	integers.	
	For example, 17 MOD 5 evaluates to 2.	
Text:	Evaluates to a random integer from a to b,	
RANDOM (a, b)	including a and b.	
Block:	For example, RANDOM (1, 3) could	
RANDOM a, b	evaluate to 1, 2, or 3.	
Relational and Boolean Operators		
Text and Block:	The relational operators $=, \neq, >, <, \geq$, and	
a = b	\leq are used to test the relationship between two	
a ≠ b	variables, expressions, or values.	
a > b a < b	For example, a = b evaluates to true if	
a < b a ≥ b	a and b are equal; otherwise it evaluates to	
$a \leq b$	false.	
Text:	Evaluates to true if condition is false;	
NOT condition	otherwise evaluates to false.	
Block:		
NOT condition		

Instruction	Explanation	
Relational and Boolean Operators (continued)		
Text: condition1 AND condition2 Block: condition1 AND condition2	Evaluates to true if both condition1 and condition2 are true; otherwise evaluates to false.	
Text: condition1 OR condition2 Block: condition1 OR condition2	Evaluates to true if condition1 is true or if condition2 is true or if both condition1 and condition2 are true; otherwise evaluates to false.	
Select	ion	
<pre>Text: IF (condition) { <block of="" statements=""> }</block></pre>	The code in block of statements is executed if the Boolean expression condition evaluates to true; no action is taken if condition evaluates to false.	
Block: IF condition block of statements		
<pre>Text: IF (condition) { <first block="" of="" statements=""> } ELSE { <second block="" of="" statements=""></second></first></pre>	The code in first block of statements is executed if the Boolean expression condition evaluates to true; otherwise the code in second block of statements is executed.	
}		
Block: IF condition first block of statements ELSE second block of statements		

Explanation
ion
The code in block of statements is executed n times.
The code in block of statements is repeated until the Boolean expression condition evaluates to true.
rations
greater than the length of the list, an error
Refers to the element of list at index i. The first element of list is at index 1.
Assigns the value of list[j] to list[i].
Assigns value1, value2, and value3 to list[1], list[2], and list[3], respectively.

Instruction	Explanation	
List Operations (continued)		
Text: FOR EACH item IN list { <block of="" statements=""> } Ph d</block>	The variable item is assigned the value of each element of list sequentially, in order from the first element to the last element. The code in block of statements is executed once for each assignment of item.	
Block: FOR EACH item IN list block of statements		
Text: INSERT (list, i, value) Block: INSERT list, i, value	Any values in list at indices greater than or equal to i are shifted to the right. The length of list is increased by 1, and value is placed at index i in list.	
Text: APPEND (list, value)	The length of list is increased by 1, and value is placed at the end of list.	
Block: APPEND list, value		
Text: REMOVE (list, i)	Removes the item at index i in list and shifts to the left any values at indices greater than i. The length of list is decreased by 1.	
Block: REMOVE list, i		
Text: LENGTH (list)	Evaluates to the number of elements in list.	
Block: LENGTH list		
Procedures		
Text: PROCEDURE name (parameter1, parameter2,) {	A procedure, name, takes zero or more parameters. The procedure contains programming instructions.	
<instructions> }</instructions>		
Block: PROCEDURE name parameter1, parameter2, (instructions)		

Instruction	Explanation	
Procedures (continued)		
Text: PROCEDURE name (parameter1, parameter2,) { <instructions> RETURN (expression) } Block: PROCEDURE name parameter1, parameter2,</instructions>	A procedure, name, takes zero or more parameters. The procedure contains programming instructions and returns the value of expression. The RETURN statement may appear at any point inside the procedure and causes an immediate return from the procedure back to the calling program.	
Instructions RETURN expression		
Rob		
If the robot attempts to move to a square that is not open or is beyond the edge of the grid, the robot will stay in its current location and the program will terminate.		
Text: MOVE_FORWARD ()	The robot moves one square forward in the direction it is facing.	
Block: MOVE_FORWARD		
Text: ROTATE_LEFT ()	The robot rotates in place 90 degrees counterclockwise (i.e., makes an in-place	
Block: ROTATE_LEFT	left turn).	
Text: ROTATE_RIGHT ()	The robot rotates in place 90 degrees clockwise (i.e., makes an in-place right turn).	
Block: ROTATE_RIGHT		
Text: CAN_MOVE (direction) Block: CAN MOVE direction	Evaluates to true if there is an open square one square in the direction relative to where the robot is facing; otherwise evaluates to false. The value of direction can be left,	
CAR_FOUR direction	right, forward, or backward.	