

Practical Notes

1. How characters are represented using the ASCII character set
 - Each character is assigned a unique value
 - Using 7 bits

2. Functions can return values, Procedures cannot

3. Declaring a procedure

PROCEDURE Module_2B (BYVALUE ParX: Real, BYREF ParZ: STRING)

4. Context sensitive prompt

→ IDE displays hints, appropriate to the current cursor position.

5. Program development cycle

- Designing / Analysis
- Coding
- Testing
- Maintenance.

6. Testing the program before all the subroutines have been implemented is called → Stub testing.

7. Types of maintenance

- Corrective maintenance
 - correcting identified errors
- Adaptive maintenance
 - amending a program to enhance functionality
 - or in response to specific changes
- Perfective maintenance
 - modifying program to ~~improve~~ improve performance

8. The end-of - file [EOF] marker.

OPEN FILE "Test.txt" FOR READ

WHILE NOT EOF ("Test.txt") DO,

READ FILE "Test.txt", Text of Test

OUTPUT Text of Test

ENDWHILE

CLOSEFILE "Test.txt"

9. Structure Chart → a graphical representation of the modular structure of a solution.

10. Parameter → A value passed between values.

11. Finite state machine → a machine that consists of a fixed set of possible states with a set of inputs that change the state and a set of possible outputs.

12. State transition table → a table that gives information about the states of an FSM.

13. State transition diagram → a diagram that describes the behaviour of an FSM.

14. Syntax Error → an error in which a program statement does not follow the rules of the language.

15. Logic error → an error in the logic of the solution that causes it not to behave as intended.

16. Test data → carefully chosen values that will test a program.

17. Black box testing
→ Comparing expected results with actual results when a program is run.
18. White box testing
→ Testing every path through the program code.
19. Dry run
→ The process of checking the execution of an algorithm or program by recording variable values
20. Integration Testing
→ Individually tested modules are joined into one program and tested to ensure modules interact correctly.
21. Abstraction → filtering out unnecessary data to solve a problem
22. Decomposition → breaking problems into sub-problems, leads to modules
23. Data modelling → analysing and organising data.
24. Pattern recognition → looking for patterns or common solutions to common problems.
25. Algorithm → a sequence of defined steps that can be carried out to perform a task.
26. Identifier table → listing variable identifiers, data types, explanations.
27. Rogue value → a value used to terminate a sequence of values.
28. Stepwise Refinement
→ Breaking down the steps of an outline solution into smaller steps.
29. Linear Search → Checking each element of an array for a required value
30. Bubble sort → method where adjacent pairs of values are compared and swapped.

31. Abstract data type → a collection of data with associated operations.
32. Return Value → The value replacing the function call used in the expression.
33. Argument → The actual input expression or value with which the subroutine is being called.
34. Parameter → The variables used inside a subroutine which will take values passed into a subroutine at call time.
35. Subroutine Interface → the parameters being passed between subroutine and the calling program.
36. Function/ Procedure header
→ the first line of a function or procedure definition showing the identifier and parameter list.
37. By Value → the actual value is passed into the procedure
38. By Reference → the address of the variable is passed into the procedure.