

Underneath the Syntax

Quiz & Exercise Bank - Chapter 1 Preview

This preview shows the format of the complete request-only Quiz and Exercise Bank. The full bank contains four multiple-choice questions and one short-answer question for each of the book's 26 chapters. The instructor answer key is distributed separately.

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Chapter 1: A Brief History of Programming [Core]

1. What did programming the earliest computers, like the ENIAC, actually require?

- A. Typing commands into a terminal
- B. Writing in a high-level language like FORTRAN
- C. Uploading a compiled binary file
- D. Physically rewiring the machine using wires, switches, and plugboards

2. What was assembly language the first real example of?

- A. A database query language
- B. An abstraction layer between the programmer and the hardware
- C. A markup language
- D. An object-oriented language

3. What core idea did structured programming introduce?

- A. Replacing all loops with recursion
- B. Eliminating the need for variables
- C. Building programs from a small set of predictable control structures instead of arbitrary jumps
- D. Combining code and data into objects

4. According to the chapter, what has remained remarkably stable despite decades of change in language syntax and tooling?

- A. The specific keywords used across all languages
- B. The need for a disk drive
- C. The underlying fundamentals: variables, types, conditionals, loops, and functions
- D. The use of punch cards

5. In your own words, explain why the chapter argues that a programmer who deeply understands fundamentals can move between languages more easily than one who has only memorized a single language's syntax.