SA₂

- Week beginning 17th November (5 weeks away)
- Programming only
- Topics include everything up to L120 Lists 2
 - See BPCompSci for a full list of topics we've covered; read upwards
- If you haven't already, you need to start revising now

Topic 4.2 – Programming

Built-in Functions for String Manipulation

Strings

• A string is a sequence of chars

```
static void Main(string[] args)
{
   string name = "Imani";
   char c = name[2];

   Console.WriteLine(c);
}
```

This program outputs a

Strings



• A string is a sequence of chars

```
static void Main(string[] args)
{
   string name = "Imani";
   char c = name[0];

   Console.WriteLine(c);
}
```

What does this program output? I

Strings



A string is a sequence of chars

```
static void Main(string[] args)
{
   string name = "Imani";
   char c = name[0];

   Console.WriteLine(c.ToString() + name[3].ToString());
}
```

What does this program output? In

Subroutines that return values

- So far, we have covered **procedures** with **parameters** (inputs)
- The only form of 'output' we have is writing to the console
- Today, we will use built-in functions that actually return a value in the code
- A function is a subroutine that returns a value

ToUpper and ToLower

- ToUpper converts all letters in a string to upper case
- ToLower converts all letters in a string to lower case
- These are both subroutines (specifically functions)

```
Console.Write("Enter word: ");
string word = Console.ReadLine();
Console.WriteLine("In upper case: " + word.ToUpper());
Console.WriteLine("In lower case: " + word.ToLower());
```

Length

- Length is the number of characters in a string
- It is not a subroutine, instead it is a **property**
 - We will see these in more depth next term
- As it is not a subroutine, we do not put brackets at the end of it

```
Console.Write("Enter word: ");
string word = Console.ReadLine();
int length = word.Length;
Console.WriteLine("There are " + length + " characters");
```

Exercise

Write a program that:

- Asks the user for a word and stores it in a local variable
- Lets them between the following options:
 - Displaying the length of the word
 - Displaying the word in upper case
 - Displaying the word in lower case

You have 10 minutes

- word.Length
- word.ToUpper()
- word.ToLower()

Extension: Investigate the String.Replace() function and use it to count the number of non-space characters in the phrase

Substring

 Returns a substring of a string, specified by the starting position (counting from 0) and, optionally, the desired length

```
.Substring(startIndex)
.Substring(startIndex, length)
```

 When the length parameter is omitted, the substring contains all of the string from startIndex onwards

word.Substring(0, 2)

Input: "Hello World"

Returns: He

word.Substring(2, 4)

Input: "Hello World"

Returns: "llo "

Substring Activity



| Input string | Function call | Return value |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| "Wingardium Leviosa" | word.Substring(0, 1) | "W" |
| "Wingardium Leviosa" | word.Substring(1, 1) | "i" |
| "Wingardium Leviosa" | word.Substring(9, 3) | "m L" |
| "Wingardium Leviosa" | word.Substring(11, 2) | "Le" |
| "Wingardium Leviosa" | word.Substring(3, 3) | "gar" |
| "Wingardium Leviosa" | word.Substring(6, 4) | "dium" |

Index0f

 Returns the starting position in the string of the first occurrence of the specified string

```
Console.WriteLine("We're looking for 'ham'");
Console.Write("Enter phrase: ");
string word = Console.ReadLine();
int index = word.IndexOf("ham");
Console.WriteLine("Found at " + index);
```

What is the index given the following input?

```
1. "ham"2. "hampton court"3. "Birmingham"4. "Ham"
```

Password generator

Automatically generate a password from information provided by the user.

| Format | Example |
|---|----------------------|
| 1st letter of first name in upper case | H arry |
| 2nd letter of surname in upper case | P o tter |
| Last 2 digits of year of both | 19 80 |
| 2nd and 3rd letters of favourite colour | r ed |
| 1st 3 letters letters of street name | Pri vet Drive |
| 1st digit of their shoe size | 9 |

Password: HO80edPri9

Extension: Extract random characters of the personal information instead

String.Compare

- Returns an integer depending on which string comes before the other alphabetically
 - Greater than 0 if first is after the second
 - 0 if they are the same
 - Less than 0 if the first is before the second

```
string string1 = "Abacus";
string string2 = "Able";
if (String.Compare(string1, string2) < 0)
{
   Console.WriteLine(string1 + " is before " + string2);
}</pre>
```

Casting between char and int

```
char userChar = 'A';
int userNum = 103;

Console.WriteLine((int) userChar);
Console.WriteLine((char) userNum);
```

Worksheet

W107 - C# Built-in Functions

Text-based adventure game

Introduction

- Mini project for this half term, using the skills you've learned so far
 - Practical skills
 - Selection
 - Iteration
 - Procedures
 - Random numbers
 - Employability/transferable skills
 - Creativity
 - Planning
 - Problem solving
 - Independence
 - Resilience

Requirements

- Must be a C#.NET Console Application (so lots of beautiful ASCII art please!)
- Create a basic adventure game based on choices the user makes:
 - There must be a conclusion for each path through the game
 - There must be at least one random element in the game
 - The story of the game is your choice, but the user must be asked to make a choice on at least 3 occasions, each with at least two options that lead to different paths
 - There must be at least one 'successful' conclusion

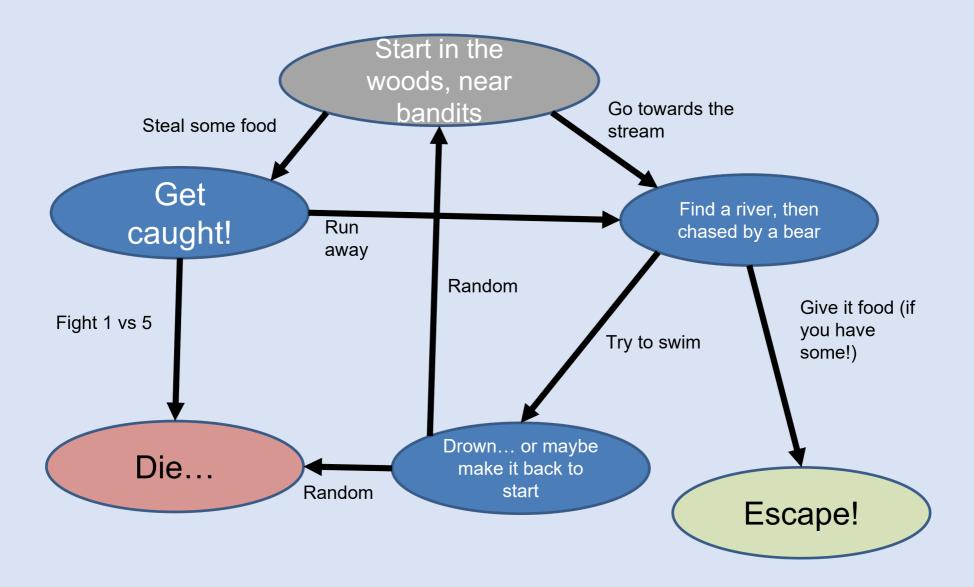
Advice - make a menu

```
static void Main(string[] args)
   Console.WriteLine("Lost in the woods... Nearby there is a Bandit camp. What will you do?");
   Console.WriteLine("[C] Go towards the camp");
   Console.WriteLine("[W] Head further into the woods");
   Console.WriteLine("[R] Follow the sound of running water, towards the river");
   Console.WriteLine("[E] Exit game");
   string userChoice = Console.ReadLine().ToUpper();
   while (userChoice != "E")
        if (userChoice == "C")
        {
            Camp();
           userChoice = "E";
        else if (userChoice == "W")
           Woods();
            userChoice = "E";
       else if (userChoice == "R")
        {
           River();
           userChoice = "E";
        else
        {
            Console.WriteLine("Not a valid choice, try again");
        }
   Console.WriteLine("Thank you for playing");
   Console.ReadKey();
```

Advice - make a plan

- Come with a theme idea it can be as simple or as complex as you like
- Previous ideas include:
 - Breaking into a bank vault
 - Escaping the wilderness whilst being chased by bears
 - Trying to cook spaghetti
 - Surviving a haunted house
 - Computer Science homework simulator

Plan it out



Programming

- User inputs use different variable types
- if statements, switch/case
- Random number generation
- Subroutines
- Loops for/while/do

Usability

- Make sure it is easy for someone else to play
 - Are the instructions clear?
 - Is it clear what the user should input?
 - Is the story clear?
 - Can it be played in 2 minutes?

Deadline

Tuesday 4th November 2025