

Input & Output in Java Using Text Files

Recall: Exception Handling

- when a program is asked to perform an action, it generally assumes such an action is possible
- if a situation occurs where the action is not possible, the program will throw an exception
- for example
 - dividing by zero
 - array index out of bounds
 - reading from an empty buffer
 - **working with a file that does not exist**
- an unhandled exception will crash a program

File Output

- **FileWriter**: open a named file for output
 - if the file does not exist, create it
 - if the file does exist, any data will be overwritten

```
FileWriter fw = new FileWriter("dataFile.txt");
```

- **PrintWriter**: send output to an opened file

```
PrintWriter pw = new PrintWriter(fw);  
pw.println("Hello");  
pw.println("World");  
pw.close();
```

- once writing is complete, close the file

File Output

- import Java input/output libraries
- enclose operation in try-catch in case of failure

```
import java.io.*;
class FileOutDemo
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        try
        {
            FileWriter fw = new FileWriter("dataFile.txt");
            PrintWriter pw = new PrintWriter(fw);
            pw.println("Hello"); // will appear on 1st line
            pw.println("World"); // will appear on 2nd line
            pw.close(); // close file for writing
        }
        catch(IOException e){}
    }
}
```

Input Stream from File

- start by creating a FileReader for the data file

```
// open a text file for reading  
FileReader fr = new FileReader("dataFile.txt");
```

- like a keyboard, the text from a file creates a stream of data (characters)
- these characters will be directed to a buffer in system memory (RAM)

```
// direct contents of text file to buffer  
BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(fr);
```

Reading File Data as Strings

- all buffered data is initially a collection of characters assembled into one string per line
- an empty line from the file will be interpreted as the 'null' string, signaling the end of the data

```
FileReader fr = new FileReader("dataFile.txt");
BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(fr);
String line;

line = br.readLine(); // read first line
while (line != null)
{
    System.out.println(line); // read next line
    line = br.readLine();
}
br.close();
```

```
import java.io.*;
class FileInDemo
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        try
        {
            FileReader fr = new FileReader("dataFile.txt");
            BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(fr);
            String line;

            line = br.readLine(); // read first line
            while (line != null)
            {
                System.out.println(line); // read next line
                line = br.readLine();
            }
            br.close();
        }
        catch (IOException e) {}
    }
}
```

Recall: Parsing Data

- once data has been temporarily stored in a string, you may wish to store some data in a more meaningful form (e.g., integers, doubles)
- use the same techniques as used for standard input from the keyboard
- must include a "catch" in case a conversion between string (from text file) and variable (e.g., integer) fails


```
import java.io.*;
class FileParseInputDemo
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        try
        {
            FileReader fr = new FileReader("dataFile.txt");
            BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(fr);
            String line;

            line = br.readLine();           // read first line
            String name = line;            // store name

            line = br.readLine();
            int age = Integer.parseInt(line); // store age

            line = br.readLine();
            double bankBal = Double.parseDouble(line); // store balance

            br.close();
        }
        catch(IOException e){
            System.out.println("Error Reading from File");
        }
        catch(NumberFormatException err) {
            System.out.println("Error Converting Number");
        }
    }
}
```