

Reading Response 1

Due IN CLASS, Tuesday, 3 April

Handout R1
CSCI 334: Spring, 2012

Readings

Please read and write a short response to the following paper. Hand in the response **in class on the due date**. Responses need not be longer than about one-half to three-quarters of a page. Your response should address the general questions asked below, as well as anything you found particularly interesting in the articles.

1. (15 points) “Growing a Language”

Read the short paper entitled “Growing a Language” from the auxiliary reading page. The author, Guy Steele, is one of the designers of Java.

This paper should illustrate why the designers of Java chose to leave generic types out of Java when they designed the language. It also gives some insight into programming language design in general. The following questions will guide you through the paper:

- (a) What is wrong with designing/using a small language like Lisp?
- (b) What is wrong with designing/using a huge language (C++)?
- (c) What was Steele’s goal in designing Java?

We will spend some time discussing these points at the beginning of class.