

Topic 8: Programming

EAL keyword sheet - Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science 0984. Write the word in your own language in the last column.

Keyword	Meaning	Example sentence	In my language
program	A set of instructions that a computer follows.	<i>I wrote a program to calculate the area.</i>	
variable	A named place in memory that stores a value that can change.	<i>The variable score is 10.</i>	
constant	A named value that does not change while the program runs.	<i>PI is a constant.</i>	
data type	The kind of data, e.g. integer, real, string, Boolean.	<i>The data type of 5 is integer.</i>	
integer	A whole number, with no decimal point.	<i>42 is an integer.</i>	
real	A number with a decimal point.	<i>3.14 is a real number.</i>	
string	A group of characters, such as letters, numbers and symbols.	<i>'Hello' is a string.</i>	
char	A single character.	<i>'A' is a char.</i>	
Boolean	A data type with only two values: TRUE or FALSE.	<i>A Boolean variable can be TRUE.</i>	
assignment	Giving a value to a variable.	<i>x <- 5 is an assignment.</i>	
operator	A symbol that does a calculation or a comparison, e.g. + or >.	<i>The operator * multiplies.</i>	
DIV	Division that gives only the whole-number part of the answer.	<i>7 DIV 2 is 3.</i>	
MOD	Gives the remainder after division.	<i>7 MOD 2 is 1.</i>	
input	Data that is entered into a program.	<i>The user types an input.</i>	
output	Data that a program shows or sends out.	<i>The output is shown on the screen.</i>	
selection	A choice in a program. The program takes a different path depending on a condition.	<i>IF is used for selection.</i>	

Keyword	Meaning	Example sentence	In my language
condition	A statement that is either true or false.	<i>The condition age >= 18 is true for 20.</i>	
IF statement	Runs code only if a condition is true.	<i>IF score > 50 THEN ...</i>	
CASE statement	Chooses which code to run from many possible values.	<i>A CASE statement can replace many IF statements.</i>	
iteration	Repeating a part of a program. Also called a loop.	<i>Iteration saves writing the same code many times.</i>	
loop	A structure that repeats code.	<i>The loop runs ten times.</i>	
FOR loop	A count-controlled loop: repeats a set number of times.	<i>FOR i <- 1 TO 10 repeats ten times.</i>	
WHILE loop	A loop that repeats while a condition is true. It checks the condition first.	<i>WHILE x < 5 ...</i>	
REPEAT UNTIL loop	A loop that repeats until a condition becomes true. It checks the condition last.	<i>A REPEAT UNTIL loop runs at least once.</i>	
array	A list of items of the same data type stored under one name.	<i>An array can store 30 student names.</i>	
index	The position number of an item in an array.	<i>The first index is often 0 or 1.</i>	
one-dimensional (1D) array	An array that is a single list.	<i>A 1D array stores a list of marks.</i>	
two-dimensional (2D) array	An array that is like a table with rows and columns.	<i>A 2D array stores a grid.</i>	
procedure	A named block of code that does a task. It does not return a value.	<i>I call the procedure to print the menu.</i>	
function	A named block of code that does a task and returns a value.	<i>The function returns the total.</i>	
parameter	A value that is passed into a procedure or function.	<i>The parameter is the number to check.</i>	
return	To send a value back from a function.	<i>The function returns the area.</i>	
local variable	A variable that can only be used inside the part of the program where it was made.	<i>A local variable is lost when the function ends.</i>	

Keyword	Meaning	Example sentence	In my language
global variable	A variable that can be used anywhere in the program.	<i>A global variable can be used in every function.</i>	
library routine	Ready-made code that you can use in your program.	<i>A random number library routine.</i>	
substring	A part of a string.	<i>'Com' is a substring of 'Computer'.</i>	
concatenation	Joining strings together.	<i>Concatenation of 'Hi' and 'there' gives 'Hithere'.</i>	
comment	Notes in code to explain it. The computer ignores them.	<i>I added a comment to explain the loop.</i>	
file handling	Reading from and writing to files in a program.	<i>File handling lets me save high scores.</i>	