## Variables 📃

Store information needed by the program

- Must have a TYPE
  - int can only store a number without a fractional part
  - float, double can store any number, with or without a fractional part (double has more precision)
  - char individual character (letter, digit, punctuation etc.)
  - String text data
  - boolean store value true or false
  - More later on values of true/false
- Must have a VALUE, the value can change as the program runs
  - if you don't provide an initial value, the compiler will supply one for you. That initial value is zero for the primitive types, null for strings.

 Every primitive type (and Strings) can be initialized using a literal of the type. Here are examples of literal values:

•	Туре	Literal value	Example initialization
•	String	"Hello World"	String greeting = "Hello World";
•	char	`A'	char letter = $A'$ ;
•	boolean	true	boolean flag = true;
•	int	1024	int kilo = $1024;$
•	double	3.154159	double pi = $3.14159;$

- Note the difference between a char literal and a String literal. A char literal is in single quotes while a String literal is in double quotes. A String may consist of only one character but a char cannot consist of multiple characters.
- String s = "A"; // LEGAL
- char c = 'AB'; // ILLEGAL

- Must have a NAME
  - the name must start with an alphabetic (or "")
  - the name may include alphabetics, digits, and underscores
  - the name should indicate the purpose of the variable in the overall design and purpose of the program
    - · lousy variable names larry, moe, curly, ah67, gh 78
    - reasonable variable names width, fileName, cursorPosition, count, response
  - You should not have a program that consists entirely of single letter variables names. It is too hard to read. When code is being explained in class I may however use single letter variable names, not because it is good programming style but because I don't have a lot of room on the slides.
  - Java strongly encourages variables to be named all lower case except as noted below:
  - If your variable name is a multi-word name then make the first word of the name lowercase and subsequent words start with a capitol.
  - Examples of multi-word variable names:
    - fileName
    - · remoteUserAddress
    - · phoneBook

## Variables & Operators

- the = operator assigns
   the value on the right to the variable on the left
   WARNING! Not to be confused with the == operator which compares (asks
   "are they equal?").
- it is extremely counter-intuitive because it assigns from the right to the left and we read from the left to the right.
- the left hand side MUST be a variable
- the right hand side can be a variable or an expression

int x = 0, y = 3, z = 4;

z = 10; // z is given the value of 10 x = y + 5; // x is given the value of y + 5 (i.e. 8) x = x + 1; // takes the current value of x and increments it by one at the end of these 3 statements, what are the values of x, y, and z?

10 = z; // WRONG , can't have number on left hand side of =
3 + y = y; // WRONG, can't have expression (3 + y) on left hand side

A magic number is a numeric constant that appears in your code without explanation.

e.g.

answer = rate \* 1.67; // what is the significance of 1.67?

```
instead make a named constant using keyword final
    // this is the scheduled rate increase
    final float RATE_INCREASE = 1.67;
    answer = rate * RATE_INCREASE ;
```

The value of a named constant <u>cannot</u> be assigned another value.

Java strongly encourages use of ALL CAPS for constants. Multi word constant names can have an UNDERSCORE between words

Implicit Conversion

float op float is float float op int is float int op float is float int op int is int e.g. int op float is float 5 + 13.5 is 18.5 int op int is int 5 + 8 is 13 3.0 / 4 is 0.75 3 / 4 is 0 3/4 \* 10 is 7.5 or 0 ????

## Practice

```
If a number has a decimal point, it's a
   double.
                                            • y = 5 / 10;
No decimal point, it's an int.
                                            • i = 5 / 10;
int i,j;
double x,y;
                                            • y = 5.0 / 10;
String numstr = "456973";
String word = "catnip";
                                            • y = y \% 10;
String str;
• i = 5 + 9;
                                            • y + i = y;
• y = 5.9 + 8;
                                            • i = numstr.length();
• i = 5.9 + 8;
                                            • y = numstr + 10;
• y = 5.0 + 4.0;
                                            • str = word.substring(1);
• y = 10 / 4;
                                            • str = word + numstr.substring(2,2);
• y = 10 / 4.0;
                                            • str = y.length() + i.length();
• i = 10 / 4;
```

• \* / % are performed before + and -• operations performed left to right 3 + 5 \* 5 is ? 8 % 3 + 9 is ? 2 % 6 \* 10 is ? 5 + 4 + 3 / 3 is ? (5 + 4 + 3) / 3 is ?

$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} +$	5;	same	as	<b>x</b> += 5;
x = x *	10;	same	as	x *= 10;
x = x -	9;	same	as	x -= 9;
x = x /	10;	same	as	x /= 10;
x = x %	3;	same	as	x %= 3;
$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} +$	1;	same	as	x ++; // post incr
		same	as	++ x; // pre incr
				x +=1;