EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY

Department of Computer Engineering

CMSE318 Principles of Programming Languages

Problem Set for Chapters 1-4

- 1. What programming language has dominated scientific computing over the past 50 years?
- 2. What is the disadvantage of having too many features in a language?
- 3. How can user-defined operator overloading harm the readability of a program?
- 4. What is one example of a lack of orthogonality in the design of C?
- 5. What does it mean for a program to be reliable?
- 6. Why is readability important to writability?
- 7. How is the cost of compilers for a given language related to the design of that language?
- 8. What role does the symbol table play in a compiler?
- 9. In what year was the Fortran design project begun?
- 10. What missing language element of ALGOL 60 damaged its chances for widespread use?
- 11. What is a nonprocedural language?
- 12. What three concepts are the basis for object-oriented programming?
- 13. What language was designed to describe the syntax of ALGOL 60?
- 15. Compute the weakest precondition for the following assignment statements and postconditions:

$$a = 2 * (b - 1) - 1 {a > 0}$$

14. Modify the grammar below to add a unary minus operator that has higher precedence than either + or *.

16. Convert the BNF below to EBNF

17. Perform the pairwise disjointness test for the following grammar rule;

$$A \rightarrow aB \mid b \mid cBB$$

18. Using the LL parsing approach and the rules below, parse the following input string (efghi) and announce a syntax error if it occurs. Show intermediate stack changes and the resulting parse tree.