

QUIZ!

Quiz Stuff

Use a full sheet of 8½x11" paper. (Half sheet? Half credit!)

Put your last name and NetID in the far upper left hand corner of the paper, **where a staple would hit it**. (It helps us sort quizzes!)

Mitchell, whm

.....

No need to write out questions. It's ok to abbreviate answers.

Numbering responses may help you avoid overlooking a question; it's ok to go ahead and pre-number your sheet.

90 seconds, 1½ points, one question.

Quiz 8, March 14, 2014

90 seconds; 1½ points

1. Write a method **ifn(s)** that returns true iff the string **s** is a full name, like "John Q. Smith" and nothing more! Hint: Use anchors!

EC ½ point: Write your answer for #1 so that the middle initial is optional.

Solution: (see next page)

There are lots of details that come to mind but here's a reasonable solution for the problem as stated.

```
def ifn(s)  
    !! (s =~ /^[a-z]+ ([a-z]\. )?[a-z]+$/i)  
end
```

One of the details is capitalization—should the first letters of all parts be required to be capitals? Can a capital appear in the middle (McIntosh)? The solution above takes a liberal view by using `/.../i` to make it case-insensitive.

Another detail: the above doesn't accommodate hyphenated names like Mary B. Smith-Fox or names with multiple whitespace like Jim de Stefano.

In practice there's so much variety in names that expecting a full name to be in any particular format creates more headaches than it's worth.

p.s. I wrote this quiz between 9:53 and 9:59, and now I wish I'd thought it through a little more! :)