Language History 2

9-2-2004
Opening Discussion

- Do you have any questions about the material from last time?
- As a general question, how many of you were surprised by how primitive older languages were? How many of you were surprised by how advanced some of the languages were decades ago?
Discussion Questions

Let's go through your discussion questions/comments. Today is a bit easier in many ways because we are a lot closer to the present and to things that we have experience with.
Significant Points

- Simula 67 – data abstraction and the beginning of OO
- ALGOL 68 – orthagonality everywhere and user defined data types
- Descendants of ALGOL
  - Pascal – simplicity
  - C – systems programming
  - Modula-2 and Oberon
- Prolog – logic programming
- Ada – a language designed by the DoD for the DoD.
More Points

- Smalltalk – true object orientation, everything is an object
- C++ – mixing OO and other stuff into an imperative language
- Java – perfection ;) (Not really, but I have to see if people catch this.)
- JavaScript and PHP – born of the web for scripting on pages
- C# – Microsofts answer to Java, fixes some problems, possibly create others