

Class Exercises: Macros

1. Write a Clojure macro called `bif` (*bound if*) that has the following syntax:

```
(bif variable condition-part
      then-part
      else-part)
```

This macro evaluates *condition-part*, binds the result to *variable* and, if it's a truthy value, evaluates and returns *then-part*, otherwise evaluates and returns *else-part*. The scope of *variable* includes *then-part* and *else-part*. In other words, the `bif` macro expands to the following code:

```
(let [variable condition-part]
  (if variable
    then-part
    else-part))
```

Examples:

```
(macroexpand-1
 '(bif q (first '(4 8 15))
        (inc q)
        (list q)))
=> (clojure.core/let [q (first (quote (4 8 15)))] (if q (inc q) (list q)))
```

```
(bif q (first '(4 8 15))
      (inc q)
      (list q))
=> 5
```

```
(bif q (first ())
      (inc q)
      (list q))
=> (nil)
```

2. Write a Clojure macro called `def-vars` that receives a symbol *var-name* and zero or more expressions. This macro defines as many global variables as the provided number of expressions. The value of *var-name* is the name prefix for all these variables. The suffix is “0” for the first variable name, which is initialized with the first expression. The next variable name has a “1” suffix and is initialized with the second expression, and so on with all the remaining variables.

For example, the expression:

```
(def-vars x (+ 1 2) 3 (* 2 2))
```

should macroexpand to:

```
(do
  (def x0 (+ 1 2))
  (def x1 3)
  (def x2 (* 2 2)))
```

When the macro is evaluated, variables `x0`, `x1` and `x2` should be defined. Thus:

```
(+ x0 x1 x2)
=> 10
```

These are some functions you might find useful:

```
(str 'foo 123)
=> "foo123"

(symbol "foo123")
=> foo123
```

3. Write a Clojure macro called `def-many`. This macro allows defining many global bindings in one place. It has the following form:

```
(def-many var1 expr1 var2 expr2 ... varn exprn)
```

Where every var_i is a symbol and every $expr_i$ is an arbitrary expression. The macro evaluates $expr_1$ and binds the result to var_1 (using the `def` special form), then evaluates $expr_2$ and binds the result to var_2 , and so on.

The macro expands to the following form:

```
(do
  (def var1 expr1)
  (def var2 expr2)
  :
  (def varn exprn))
```

Examples:

```
(macroexpand-1 '(def-many a (+ 1 2)
                      b (* 2 a)
                      c (/ (inc b) a)))
=> (do
    (def a (+ 1 2))
    (def b (* 2 a))
    (def c (/ (inc b) a)))

(def-many a (+ 1 2)
          b (* 2 a)
          c (/ (inc b) a))
(+ a b c)
=> 34/3
```

4. Write a Clojure macro called `nth-expr`. This macro only evaluates the n -th item of a series of expressions. It has the following form:

```
(nth-expr nth expr0 expr1 ... exprk)
```

The macro evaluates the expression `nth`, if it's equal to 0 it returns the result of evaluating `expr0`, otherwise, if it's equal to 1 it returns the result of evaluating `expr1`, and so on. Only one of `expr0`, `expr1`, ..., `exprk` is actually evaluated, the rest of the expressions are ignored. A runtime exception is thrown if the result of evaluating `nth` is not an integer between 0 and k .

The macro expands to the following `case` form:

```
(case nth
  0 expr0
  1 expr1
  :
  k exprk
  (throw (RuntimeException. "Bad nth value!")))
```

Examples:

```
(macroexpand-1 '(nth-expr (- 5 4) (* 2 3) (- 5 2) (+ 7 2) (/ 20 2)))
=> (clojure.core/case (- 5 4)
  0 (* 2 3)
  1 (- 5 2)
  2 (+ 7 2)
  3 (/ 20 2)
  (throw (java.lang.RuntimeException. "Bad nth value!")))
```

```
(nth-expr (- 5 4) (* 2 3) (- 5 2) (+ 7 2) (/ 20 2))
=> 3
```

```
(nth-expr :wat 0 1 2 3 4 5)
=> RuntimeException Bad nth value!
```