Ruby Trivia
In Ruby, a dash may not be used in a variable name...

...but before Ruby 2.1, one variable was allowed to be named with a dash.

What was it called?
Question 1:
In Ruby, a dash may not be used in a variable name...
...but before Ruby 2.1, one variable was allowed to be named with a dash.

What was it called?

Hint: It’s a global variable.
Answer 1: $-
Bonus Question:

Why can't variable names contain dashes?
Bonus Question:

Why can’t variable names contain dashes?

Answer: Because the Ruby parser can’t distinguish it from the minus (-) operator between two variables (e.g. forty-two).
Question 2:
Ruby may define a special File object in the first file it interprets.

What is it called?
What does it do?
Question 2:
Ruby may define a special File object in the first file it interprets.

What is it called?

Hint: When you call read, it reads the file, starting after __END__
Answer 2:
DATA
Bonus Question:

What happens if you call:

DATA.rewind

before

DATA.read
Bonus Question:

What happens if you call:

DATA.rewind

before

DATA.read

Answer: It reads the entire file, including the source code.
The following line of code is valid Ruby syntax:

```ruby
a = true && return
```

But this line of code is not:

```ruby
a = return && true
```

What is the error message?
Answer 3:

void value expression
Question 4:
When you convert the range:
(1..3).to_a
You get the array:
[1, 2, 3]
What is the result of:
(3..1).to_a
Answer 4:
Bonus Question:

What method would need to be added to the Range interface to make descending sequences possible?
Bonus Question:

What method would need to be added to the Range interface to make descending sequences possible?

Answer: pred (the opposite of succ).
Question 5:

What Ruby class mixes-in Comparable but doesn't define the spaceship ( <=> ) operator?
What Ruby class mix-in Comparable but doesn't define the spaceship ( <=> ) operator?

Hint: It's a descendant of Numeric.
Answer 5: Complex
Thanks for playing!

Follow @sferik on Twitter for more Ruby trivia and practica.