Here is one possible solution. We use three variables:
- increasing: is true until we detect that the sequence fails to be increasing.
- prev: holds the value of the previous number that was read
- curr: holds the value of the current number that was read

We begin by reading the first value into prev. After this, with each current value we do the following, provided that it is not equal to the “sentinel” value of -999. We check whether curr is less than or equal to prev, and if so we know that the sequence is not increasing, and so we set increasing to false. (We need to be careful to check that curr is not equal to -999, since it will almost certainly cause us to think that the sequence is not increasing.) We exit the loop as soon as we discover that increasing is false or when we have hit the sentinel value, and print the appropriate message.

```java
increasing = true
prev = read()
do {
curr = read()
if ( curr != -999 ) {
    if ( curr <= prev ) then
        increasing = false
    else
        prev = curr
} while (increasing and curr != 999)
if ( increasing ) then
    print(“Increasing”)
else
    print(“Non-Increasing”)
```

(Note that we have taken explicit advantage of the assumption that there are 2 or more input values. If not, we would need to restructure our loop, using a while-loop, rather than a do-while.)