Common Language Runtime

.NET

Common Language Runtime (CLR) *is a managed execution environment that is part of Microsoft's .NET framework.* ***CLR*** *manages the execution of programs written in different supported languages.* ***CLR*** *transforms source code into a form of bytecode known as* ***CIL (Common Intermediate Language)****.*

https://www.techopedia.com/definition/5225/common-language-runtime-clr#:~:text=

CLR (Common Language Runtime)

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/standard/clr
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/framework/get-started/overview

---

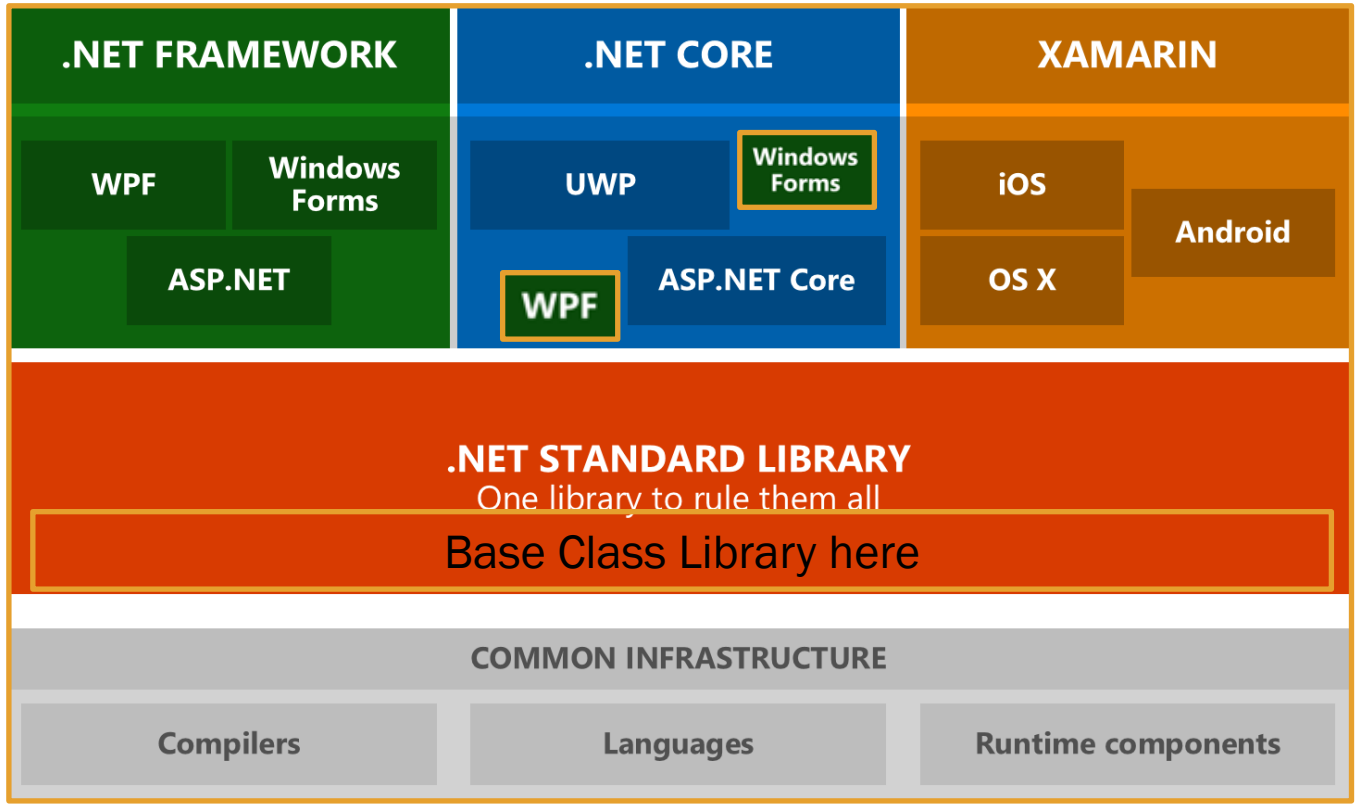
- The .NET Framework consists of the ***Common Language Runtime*** (CLR) and the ***.NET Framework class library***.
- As the foundation for .NET Framework, ***CLR*** manages/runs the code and provides services like memory management, remoting, type enforcement (through the ***CTS***), security, etc.
- These services (Compilers and tools) expose the ***CLR***'s functionality and enable you to write code that benefits from this managed execution environment.

Benefits of CLR:		
cross-language integration	cross-language exception handling	enhanced security
versioning and deployment support	a simplified model for component interaction	debugging and profiling services.

.NET Class Libraries - BCL (Base Class Library)

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/standard/clr

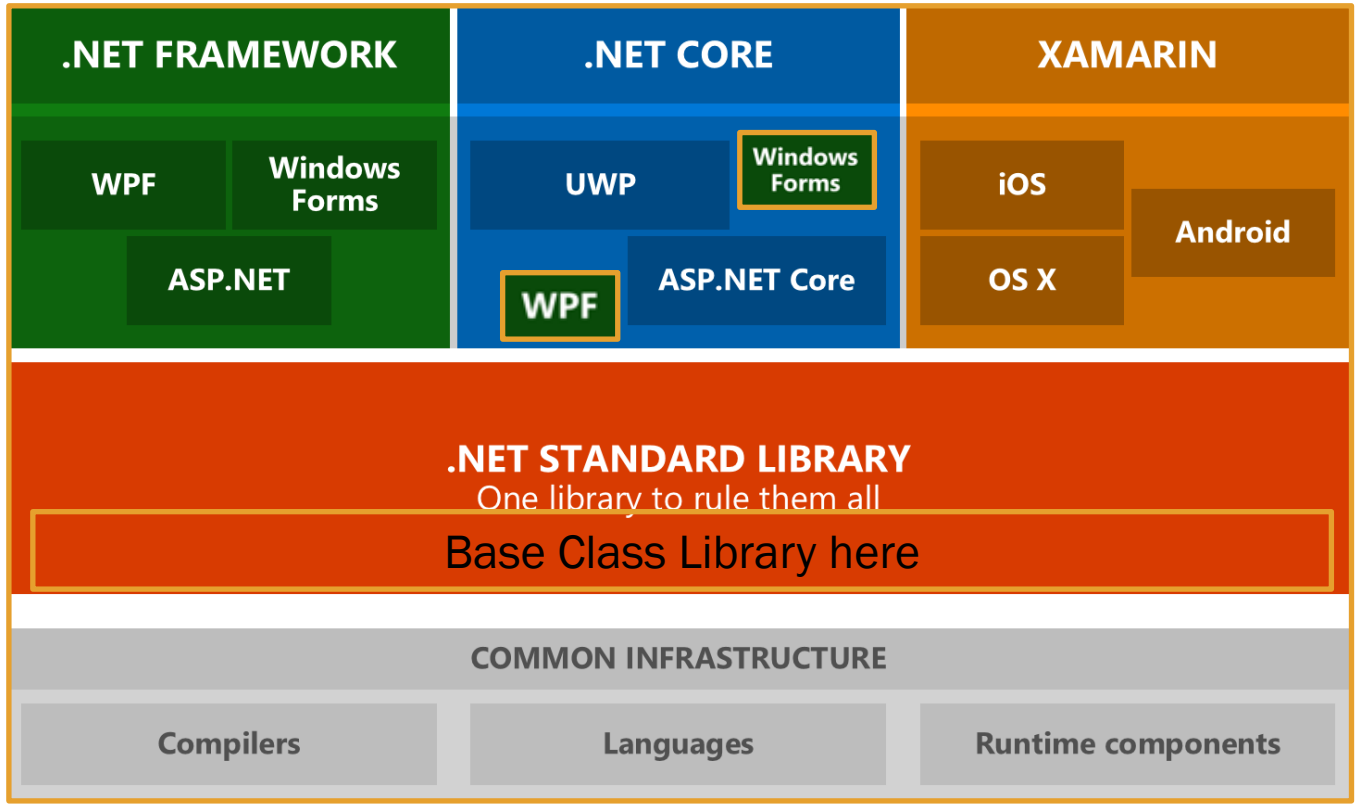
BCL stands for ***Base Class Library*** (AKA, ***Class library (CL)***). A .NET Framework library, ***Base Class Library*** is the foundation for the C# runtime library and one of the ***Common Language Infrastructure (CLI)*** standard libraries. ***BCL*** provides types representing the built-in ***CLI*** data types, basic file access, collections, custom attributes, formatting, security attributes, I/O streams, string manipulation, etc.



.NET Class Libraries

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/framework/get-started/overview

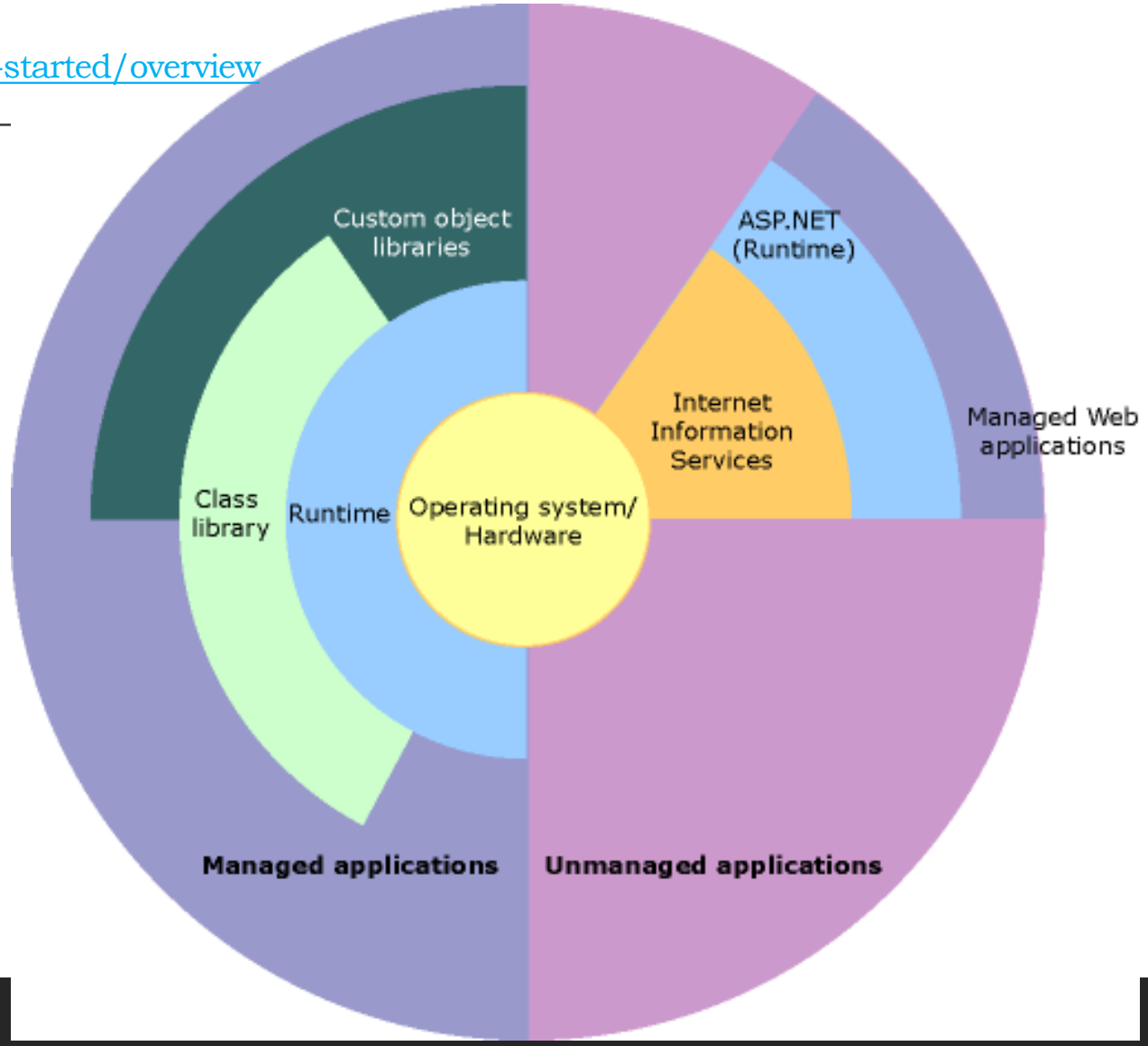
A ***class library*** is a comprehensive, object-oriented collection of reusable types that you use to develop apps ranging from traditional command-line or graphical user interface (GUI) apps to apps based on the latest innovations provided by ASP.NET, such as Web Forms and XML Web services.



.NET CLR and Class Library Relationship

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/framework/get-started/overview

This illustration shows the relationship of the ***Common Language Runtime*** and the class library to your apps and to the overall system. The illustration also shows how managed code operates within a larger architecture.



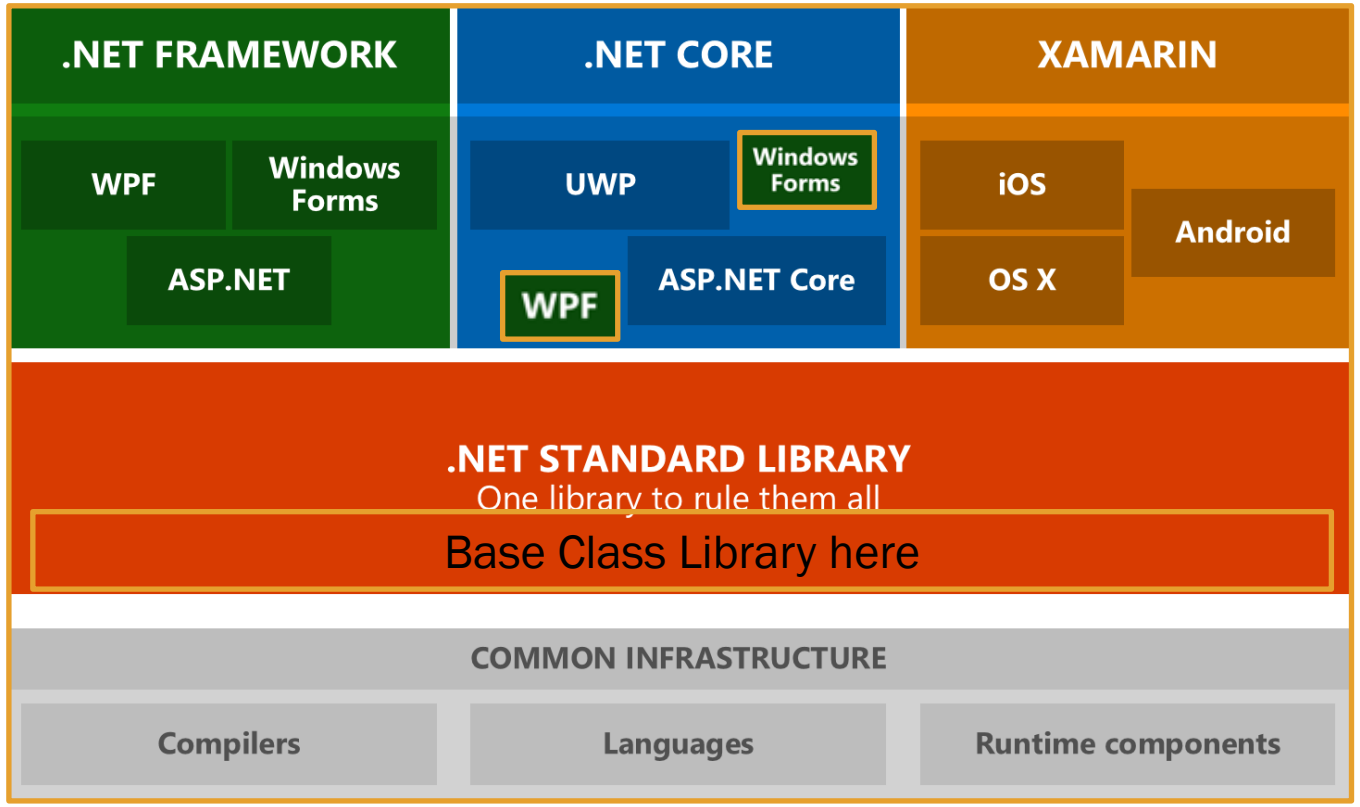
.NET CoreFX

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/standard/glossary#corefx

Think of ***CoreFX*** as a fork of the .NET Framework ***BCL***.

CoreFX is the foundational class library for ***.NET Core***. It defines the types for primitives, collections, file systems, console, JSON, XML, async and many others.

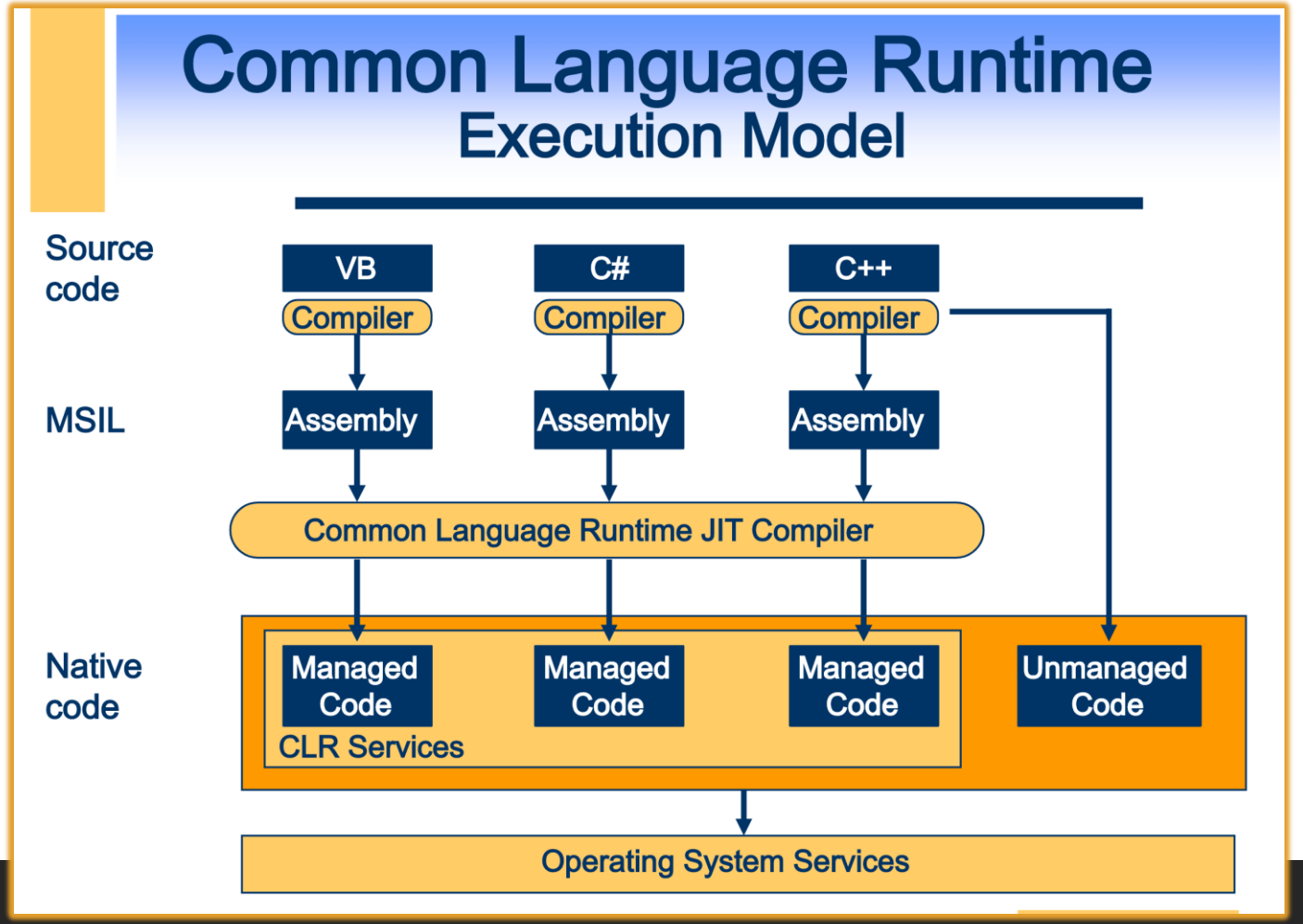
CoreFX makes up the ***.NET Core Base Class Library (BCL)***.



Managed Code

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/standard/managed-code

- Managed code is managed by the **Common Language Runtime** (***CLR***) at runtime.
- The ***CLR*** provides memory management (***GC***), security boundaries, type safety, etc.
- Managed code is written in a high-level language that can be run on top of .NET.
- Code is compiled into **Intermediate Language** (***IL*** [***MISL***, ***CIL***]) code, which the ***CLR*** compiles and executes.
- The ***CLR*** manages the **Just-In-Time** compiling code from ***IL*** to machine code that can be run on a ***CPU***.
- The ***CLR*** knows what your code is doing and can *manage* it.



Unmanaged Code

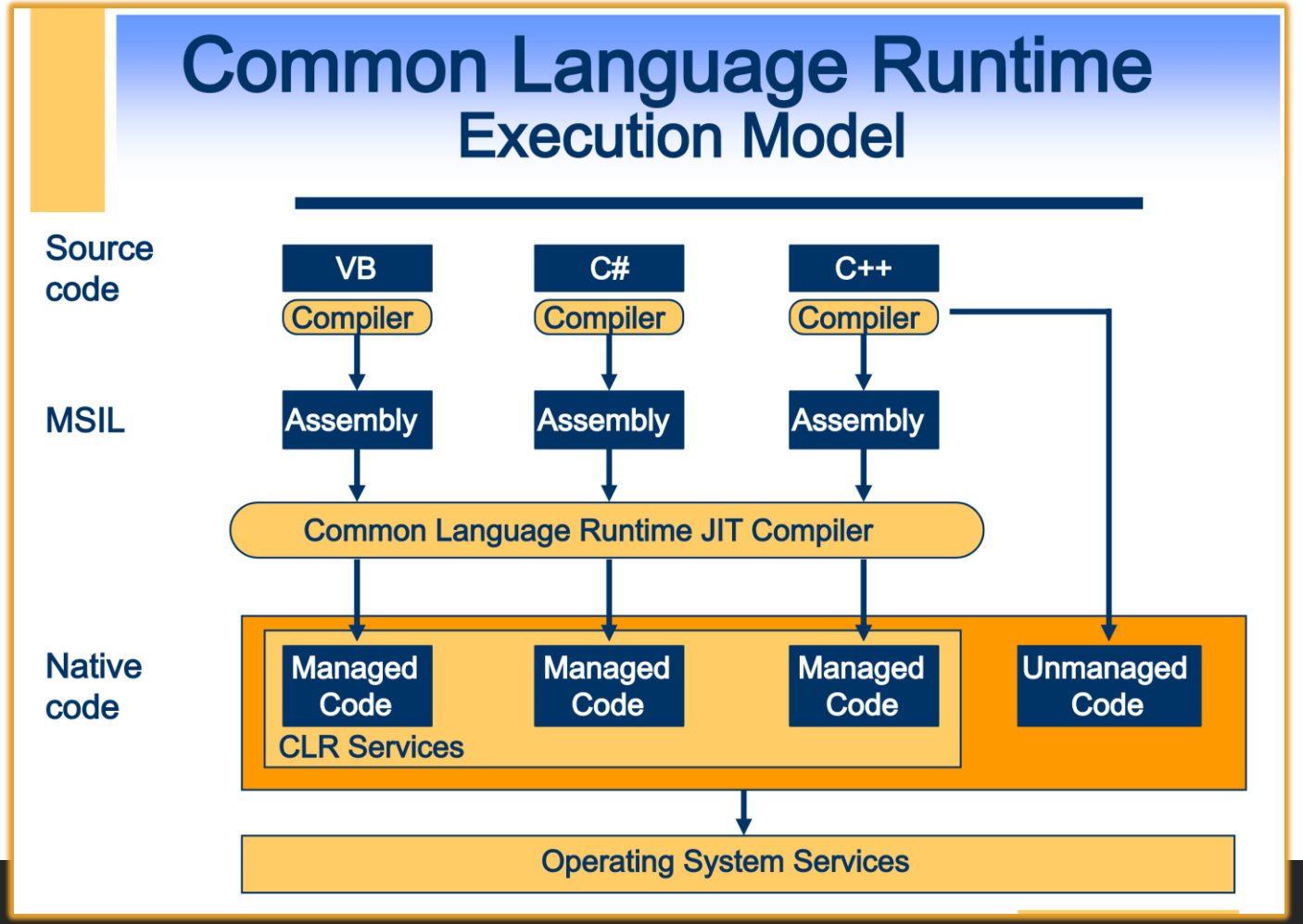
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/framework/interop/

Code that runs outside the ***CLR*** is called Unmanaged Code.

The .NET Framework promotes interaction with COM components, COM+ services, external type libraries, and many operating system services. Data types, method signatures, and error-handling mechanisms vary between managed and unmanaged object models.

Examples of Unmanaged Code:

- COM components,
- ActiveX interfaces,
- Windows API functions.



Idisposable Interface

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.idisposable?view=netframework-4.8

- The ***Garbage Collector (GC)*** has no knowledge of unmanaged resources (window handles, or open files and streams).
- ***Idisposable*** provides a method for releasing unmanaged resources.
- If your app uses an object that implements the ***Idisposable*** interface, call the object's ***IDisposable.Dispose*** implementation when finished using it.

```
// A base class that implements IDisposable.
// By implementing IDisposable, you are announcing that
// instances of this type allocate scarce resources.
public class MyResource: IDisposable
{
    // Pointer to an external unmanaged resource
```

```
// Dispose managed resources.
component.Dispose();
```

Using Block

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/language-reference/keywords/using-statement

Provides a convenient syntax that ensures the correct use of ***IDisposable*** objects.

```
using (var font1 = new Font("Arial", 10.0f))
{
    byte charset = font1.GdiCharSet;
}
```

When the lifetime of an ***IDisposable*** object is limited to a single method, you should declare and instantiate it in the ***using*** statement. The ***using*** statement calls the ***Dispose*** method on the object in the correct way, and (when you use it as shown earlier) it also causes the object itself to go out of scope as soon as ***Dispose*** is called. Within the ***using*** block, the object is read-only and cannot be modified or reassigned.

Using Block

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.idisposable?view=netframework-4.8

If your language supports a construct such as the ***using*** statement in C#, you can use it instead of explicitly calling ***IDisposable.Dispose*** your self.

```
public WordCount(string filename)
{
   if (! File.Exists(filename))
      throw new FileNotFoundException("The file does not exist.");

   this.filename = filename;
   string txt = String.Empty;
   using (StreamReader sr = new StreamReader(filename)) {
      txt = sr.ReadToEnd();
   }
   nWords = Regex.Matches(txt, pattern).Count;
}
```

The ***using*** statement is a syntactic convenience. At compile time, the language compiler implements the intermediate language (IL) for a **try/finally** block.

Using Block

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/language-reference/keywords/using-statement

The ***using*** statement ensures that ***.Dispose*** is called even if an exception occurs within the ***using*** block. You can achieve the same result by putting the object inside a ***try*** block and then calling ***.Dispose*** in a finally block.

A ***using*** block is expanded to a ***try/catch*** block at compile time (note the extra curly braces to create the limited scope for the object).

```
{
  var font1 = new Font("Arial", 10.0f);
  try
  {
    byte charset = font1.GdiCharSet;
  }
  finally
  {
    if (font1 != null)
      ((IDisposable)font1).Dispose();
  }
}
```

```
using (var font1 = new Font("Arial", 10.0f))
{
    byte charset = font1.GdiCharSet;
}
```