

SOLUTION NOTES

Foundations of Programming in Java 2003 Paper 11 Question 3 (FHK)

Java TreeSort Question

Part a:

Within any instantiation of a class, Java permits use of 'this' as a reference to that instantiation. Overwriting this reference clearly cannot be permitted and Java automatically associates the attribute final to this. Accordingly, the highlighted assignment statement provokes a compiler error.

In method main() the programmer sets up a Node tree which has a null reference and then proposes to use tree.put(8) to assign a value to this first Node. Since tree is null, tree.put(8) does not exist so the assignment statement which offends the compiler would not help even if it were somehow permitted.

To fix the program it is necessary to set up a proper Node initially and build up from that. The put() method, suitably modified, can then be used for adding further notes.

Part b:

Here is a working version of the program with changes made to method main() and method put() as well as incorporating the required toString() method:

```
public class TreeSort
{ public static void main(String[] args)
  { Node tree = new Node(8);
    tree.put(16);  tree.put(4);
    System.out.println("Sorted values:  " + tree);
  }
}
```

```
class Node
{ private int val;
  private Node left, right;

  public Node(int n)
  { this.val = n;
    this.left = null;
    this.right = null;
  }

  public void put(int k)
  { if (k < this.val)
    { if (this.left == null)
      { this.left = new Node(k);
      }
    }
    else
    { this.left.put(k);
    }
    else
    { if (this.right == null)
      { this.right = new Node(k);
      }
    }
    else
    { this.right.put(k);
    }
  }

  public String toString()
  { String s = ((this.left != null) ? this.left.toString() : "") +
    this.val + " " +
    ((this.right != null) ? this.right.toString() : "");
    return s;
  }
}
```

Part c:

Here is an appropriate method `sum()` to be incorporated into class `Node`:

```
public int sum()
{ int s = ((this.left != null) ? this.left.sum() : 0) +
  this.val +
  ((this.right != null) ? this.right.sum() : 0);
  return s;
}
```

```
}
```

To use this, an extra statement should be added to method `main()`:

```
System.out.println("Summed values: " + tree.sum());
```