Array

♦ What is an Array in Java?

An array is like a container that holds multiple values of the same type.

Imagine a row of boxes where each box can store one value. All boxes (elements) are of the **same data type** like int, float, or String.

Why Use Arrays?

- To store multiple values in one variable instead of creating many individual variables.
- Easy to manage collections of data using loops.

Types of Arrays

✓ 1. One-Dimensional Array

• Like a list of items (e.g., marks of 5 students).

♦ How to Declare and Initialize:

java

CopyEdit

int[] marks = new int[5]; // creates an array to store 5 integers

marks[0] = 90;

marks[1] = 85;

// and so on...

♦ Shortcut Initialization:

java

CopyEdit

int[] marks = {90, 85, 75, 88, 92};

System.out.println(marks[0]); // prints 90

♦ Looping Through Array:

```
java
CopyEdit
for (int i = 0; i < marks.length; i++) {
   System.out.println(marks[i]);
}</pre>
```

2. Multi-Dimensional Array

• Like a table or grid (e.g., a matrix or a chessboard).

Example: 2D Array

java

```
CopyEdit
```

```
int[][] matrix = new int[2][3]; // 2 rows, 3 columns
matrix[0][0] = 1;
matrix[0][1] = 2;
matrix[1][0] = 3;
```

♦ Initialization with Values:

java

CopyEdit

System.out.println(matrix[1][2]); // prints 6

♦ Looping Through 2D Array:

java

CopyEdit

```
for (int i = 0; i < matrix.length; i++) {
  for (int j = 0; j < matrix[i].length; j++) {
    System.out.print(matrix[i][j] + " ");
  }
  System.out.println();
}</pre>
```

♦ Alternative Declarations

All of the following are valid:

java

CopyEdit

int[] a; // recommended

int a[]; // also valid

String[] names;

Key Points to Remember

- Arrays are **fixed in size** you can't change the length after creation.
- Indexing starts from 0.
- If you try to access an index beyond the limit, Java will throw ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException.

Example Program: Sum of Array Elements

```
CopyEdit
```

java

```
public class ArraySum {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
  int[] numbers = {10, 20, 30, 40};
  int sum = 0;
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < numbers.length; i++) {
    sum += numbers[i];
}

System.out.println("Sum = " + sum);
}</pre>
```

String

♦ What is a String in Java?

In Java, a **String** is a **sequence of characters** (like letters, digits, or symbols). For example: "Hello", "Java123" are strings.

- Strings are **objects**, not just text.
- Java provides the **String class** to work with strings.
- Strings are **immutable** once created, their values can't be changed.

♦ How to Create Strings

✓ 1. Using Double Quotes (Most common way):

java

CopyEdit

String name = "Java";

2. Using the new Keyword:

java

CopyEdit

String name = new String("Java");

Common String Methods

| Method | Description | Example | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| length() | Returns number of characters | "Java".length() → 4 | |
| charAt(index) | Returns character at given index | "Java".charAt(1) → 'a' | |
| toUpperCase() | Converts to uppercase | "java".toUpperCase() → "JAVA" | |

| Method | Description | Example | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| toLowerCase() | Converts to lowercase | "JAVA".toLowerCase() → "java" | |
| equals(str) | Checks if two strings are equal | "Java".equals(\"Java\") → true | |
| equalsIgnoreCase() | Compares ignoring case | "java".equalsIgnoreCase(\"JAVA\") \rightarrow true | |
| substring(start, end) | Extracts part of string | "Hello".substring(1, 4) → "ell" | |
| indexOf(char) | Returns first index of a character | "hello".indexOf('l') → 2 | |
| trim() | Removes leading and trailing spaces | " Java ".trim() → "Java" | |
| replace(a, b) | Replaces characters | "Java".replace('a', 'o') → "Jovo" | |

Example Program Using Strings

java

}

```
CopyEdit

public class StringExample {

public static void main(String[] args) {

String str = " Java Programming ";

System.out.println("Original: " + str);

System.out.println("Length: " + str.length());

System.out.println("Trimmed: " + str.trim());

System.out.println("Uppercase: " + str.toUpperCase());

System.out.println("Substring: " + str.substring(1, 5));

System.out.println("Character at index 2: " + str.charAt(2));
```

String Immutability (Why it matters)

```
java
CopyEdit
String s = "Java";
s.concat(" Language"); // This does not change 's'
System.out.println(s); // Output: Java
To modify a string, you must assign the result to a new variable:
java
CopyEdit
s = s.concat(" Language");
System.out.println(s); // Output: Java Language
```

Comparing Strings

Correct Way:

java

CopyEdit

String a = "Java";

String b = "Java";

System.out.println(a.equals(b)); // true



♠ Don't use == for string comparison (it checks memory, not content).

String Concatenation

✓ Using + operator:

java

CopyEdit

```
String firstName = "John";

String lastName = "Doe";

String fullName = firstName + " " + lastName;

Using concat() method:

java

CopyEdit

String fullName = firstName.concat(" ").concat(lastName);
```

StringBuilder & StringBuffer (Mutable Strings)

If you need a **changeable string**, use these:

java

CopyEdit

StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder("Hello");

sb.append(" World");

System.out.println(sb); // Output: Hello World

Summary:

- String = text in double quotes
- Strings are objects and immutable
- Use equals() to compare, not ==
- Many useful methods to manipulate and check strings
- Use StringBuilder for changeable strings
- Does a Method Actually Change the Object or Return Something in Java?
- ♦ The answer is: It depends on the method and the type of object.
- Two Cases:

✓ 1. If the object is mutable (can be changed),

Then the method can change the actual object.

Example: StringBuilder (mutable)

java

CopyEdit

StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder("Hello");

sb.append(" World"); // modifies the original object

System.out.println(sb); // Output: Hello World

- append() modifies the original object (sb) directly.
- No need to assign it to a new variable.

2. If the object is immutable (can't be changed),

Then the method returns a new object, and the original stays the same.

Example: String (immutable)

java

CopyEdit

String s = "Hello";

s.toUpperCase(); // returns a new string, but does not change 's'

System.out.println(s); // Output: Hello (not changed!)

To update:

java

CopyEdit

s = s.toUpperCase();

System.out.println(s); // Output: HELLO

Important Concept: Java is Pass-by-Value

Even for objects, Java passes a copy of the reference. So:

• If the method modifies internal data, the original object is changed.

• If the method reassigns the reference, the original object is NOT changed.

```
Example: Object Modification vs Reassignment
```

```
java
CopyEdit
class Car {
  String color;
}
void paint(Car c) {
  c.color = "Red"; // changes original object
}
void replace(Car c) {
  c = new Car(); // changes only the local copy of reference
  c.color = "Blue";
}
Car myCar = new Car();
paint(myCar); // myCar.color becomes "Red"
replace(myCar); // myCar is still the same object with color "Red"
```

Summary:

Method Affects Object? Depends on...

- ✓ Changes object
 If object is mutable
- X Returns new object If object is immutable
- X Changing parameter If reference is reassigned

What are Mutable and Immutable Objects?

Term Meaning

Mutable Can be changed after it's created

Immutable Cannot be changed after it's created

Immutable Objects in Java

Examples:

- String
- Wrapper classes (Integer, Double, Boolean, etc.)
- LocalDate, LocalTime, etc.

✓ Key Features of Immutable Objects:

- Their internal state (data) cannot be changed after creation.
- Any method that seems to modify the object actually returns a **new object**.

Example: String is immutable

java

CopyEdit

String s = "Java";

s.concat(" Programming"); // Doesn't change 's'

System.out.println(s); // Output: Java (not changed!)

s = s.concat(" Programming"); // Now the new value is stored

System.out.println(s); // Output: Java Programming

Why are immutable objects useful?

- They are safe to use in multi-threading.
- They help avoid **unexpected changes** in data.
- They make debugging easier.

Mutable Objects in Java

- Examples:
 - StringBuilder, StringBuffer
 - Arrays
 - Custom classes (if fields can be changed)
- Key Features of Mutable Objects:
 - You can change the content without creating a new object.
- ♦ Example: StringBuilder is mutable

java

CopyEdit

```
StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder("Hello");
sb.append(" World"); // Modifies the original object
System.out.println(sb); // Output: Hello World
```

- Custom Mutable and Immutable Classes
- ✓ Mutable Class Example:

java

```
CopyEdit

class Person {

   String name;

   void setName(String newName) {

    name = newName;

}
```

✓ Immutable Class Example:

java

}

CopyEdit

```
final class Person {
    private final String name;

    public Person(String name) {
        this.name = name;
    }

    public String getName() {
        return name;
    }
}
```

- final class prevents subclassing.
- private final ensures field can't change.
- No setter method to modify the value.

♦ How to Make a Class Immutable:

- 1. Make the class final.
- 2. Make all fields private final.
- 3. Don't provide any setter methods.
- 4. Initialize all fields in the constructor.
- 5. If fields are objects, return copies (not references).

Summary Table

| Feature | Mutable Object | Immutable Object |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Can change data | ✓ Yes | X No |
| Returns same object | et 🗸 Yes | X No (returns new) |
| Thread-safe | X Not always | ✓ Yes |

Feature Mutable Object Immutable Object

Examples StringBuilder, Array String, Integer

Class and Object

✓ 1. Class Fundamentals

♦ What is a Class?

- A class is like a blueprint or template.
- It defines what data (variables) and behaviors (methods) an object can have.

♦ Syntax:

```
java
CopyEdit
class ClassName {
 // data (fields/variables)
 // behavior (methods)
}
Example:
java
CopyEdit
class Car {
 // data (fields)
  String color;
  int speed;
 // behavior (methods)
 void start() {
   System.out.println("Car started");
 }
}
```

2. Declaring Objects

♦ What is an Object?

- An **object** is a **real-world entity** created from a class.
- It holds its own data and can use methods defined in the class.

♦ Syntax:

java

CopyEdit

ClassName objName = new ClassName();

Example:

java

CopyEdit

Car myCar = new Car(); // 'myCar' is an object of class Car

3. Assigning Object Reference Variables

Object references are like pointers to the object in memory.

Example:

java

CopyEdit

Car car1 = new Car(); // car1 points to a Car object

Car car2 = car1; // car2 now points to the same object as car1

```
car2.color = "Red";
```

System.out.println(car1.color); // Output: Red (because both refer to the same object)

If you change the object using one reference, the change is reflected through the other.

4. Adding Methods to a Class

♦ Methods are functions inside a class — they define the behavior of an object.

```
Example:
java
CopyEdit
class Calculator {
 int add(int a, int b) {
   return a + b;
 }
 void printMessage() {
   System.out.println("Welcome to Calculator!");
 }
}
Using Methods:
java
CopyEdit
```

Calculator calc = new Calculator();

int sum = calc.add(10, 20);

System.out.println("Sum = " + sum); // Output: Sum = 30

calc.printMessage(); // Output: Welcome to Calculator!

Summary

| Concept | Description |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Class | A blueprint for objects |
| Object | An instance of a class |
| Declaring an object | ClassName obj = new ClassName(); |

Object reference variable Points to the object in memory

Concept

Description

Methods in a class

Define behaviors that objects can perform

5. Returning a Value from a Method

♦ What does it mean?

A method can **compute something** and give the result back using the return keyword.

```
Syntax:
java
CopyEdit
returnType methodName(parameters) {
// logic
return value;
}
```

Example:

```
java
CopyEdit
class Calculator {
  int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b; // returns the sum
  }
}
```

♦ How to use it:

java

CopyEdit

Calculator calc = new Calculator();

```
int result = calc.add(5, 3);
System.out.println("Sum = " + result); // Output: Sum = 8
```

♦ Important Notes:

- The return type must match the type of value returned.
- You can return any type: int, double, String, even objects.

6. Constructors in Java

What is a Constructor?

- A constructor is a special method that runs when an object is created.
- It is used to **initialize** object data.
- It has the same name as the class and no return type.

♦ Default Constructor:

If you don't create any constructor, Java provides a default one.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Student {
    Student() {
        System.out.println("Student object created");
      }
}
Usage:
java
CopyEdit
```

Student s = new Student(); // Output: Student object created

♦ Parameterized Constructor:

You can define your own constructor that takes arguments.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Student {
  String name;
  Student(String studentName) {
   name = studentName; // initializing name
 }
 void display() {
   System.out.println("Name: " + name);
 }
}
Usage:
java
CopyEdit
Student s = new Student("Alice");
s.display(); // Output: Name: Alice
```

♦ Constructor Overloading:

You can have **multiple constructors** with different parameter lists.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Box {
  int length, width;
```

```
Box() {
    length = 0;
    width = 0;
}

Box(int l, int w) {
    length = l;
    width = w;
}
```

Summary

| Concept | Description |
|---------------------------|---|
| return keyword | Sends a value back from a method |
| Constructor | Special method to initialize an object |
| Default constructor | No-argument constructor provided by Java |
| Parameterized constructor | Allows setting values during object creation |
| Constructor overloading | Multiple constructors with different parameters |

This

What is this in Java?

- this is a special keyword in Java.
- It is a **reference to the current object** the object on which the method or constructor is called.

Why and Where We Use this?

| Use Case | Meaning |
|---|--|
| To refer to current object's variables | When local and instance variables have the same name |
| To call current object's methods | Inside the class |
| To call another constructor in the same class | Constructor chaining |
| To pass current object as argument | Useful in callbacks or chaining |
| Used in inheritance to distinguish superclass and subclass | |

♦ 1. this to Refer Current Object's Variable

```
java
CopyEdit
class Student {
    String name;

Student(String name) {
      this.name = name; // this.name = instance variable, name = parameter
    }
}
```

```
void display() {
    System.out.println("Name: " + this.name);
}
```

Without this, Java would get confused between local and instance variable.

♦ 2. this to Call Current Class Method

```
java
CopyEdit
class Demo {
  void show() {
    System.out.println("Hello");
  }

  void call() {
    this.show(); // same as just calling show()
  }
}
```

♦ 3. this() to Call Another Constructor (Constructor Chaining)

```
java
CopyEdit
class Box {
  int length, width;

Box() {
    this(10, 5); // calls the constructor below
```

```
Box(int l, int w) {
    length = l;
    width = w;
}

void display() {
    System.out.println("Length: " + length + ", Width: " + width);
}
```

♦ 4. this as Method Argument

```
java
CopyEdit
class A {
    void display(A obj) {
        System.out.println("Method called with object: " + obj);
    }
    void call() {
        display(this); // passing current object
    }
}
```

✓ this in Inheritance

In inheritance, this always refers to the **current class object**, even if it's a subclass.

java

```
CopyEdit
class Animal {
  void showType() {
    System.out.println("This is an animal");
  }
}
class Dog extends Animal {
  void display() {
    this.showType(); // calls showType() from Animal
  }
}
• this.showType() works even if showType() is in the parent class.
```

• It can also call **overridden methods** if they exist in the subclass.

Overriding + this

```
java
CopyEdit
class Animal {
  void sound() {
    System.out.println("Animal sound");
  }
}
class Cat extends Animal {
  void sound() {
    System.out.println("Meow");
  }
}
```

```
void callSound() {
    this.sound(); // calls Cat's version
    super.sound(); // calls Animal's version
}

Output:
nginx
CopyEdit
Meow
Animal sound
```

Summary

Use of thisPurposethis.variableAccess current object's fieldthis.method()Call current object's methodthis()Call another constructor in the same classthisPass current object as parameter

With inheritance Refers to current subclass object

Garbage Collection and Finalize()

✓ Garbage Collection (GC) in Java

What is Garbage Collection?

- In Java, objects are created in memory (heap) when you use new.
- When objects are no longer needed or no references point to them, they become garbage.
- Garbage Collection is the process where Java automatically frees memory by deleting these unused objects.
- You don't need to manually free memory (like in C/C++).

How Garbage Collection Works?

- The Java Garbage Collector runs in the background.
- It identifies objects that are unreachable (no active reference).
- It removes those objects from memory to free space.
- The exact time when GC runs is not predictable and controlled by the JVM.

Example of Garbage Collection

```
CopyEdit

class Demo {

   public static void main(String[] args) {

      Demo obj1 = new Demo(); // obj1 points to a new object

      obj1 = null; // object is now eligible for GC

      System.gc(); // Request JVM to run garbage collector (not guaranteed)

      System.out.println("End of main");

   }
```

}

- When obj1 is set to null, the object it was pointing to has **no references**.
- JVM can garbage collect that object to free memory.

finalize() Method in Java

What is finalize()?

- finalize() is a method called **by the Garbage Collector** before an object is removed from memory.
- It gives the object a chance to **clean up resources** like closing files or releasing connections.

How to use finalize()?

- You **override** the finalize() method in your class.
- JVM calls it once before the object is destroyed by GC.

Example:

```
java
CopyEdit
class Demo {
  protected void finalize() {
    System.out.println("finalize method called");
  }
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Demo obj = new Demo();
    obj = null;
    System.gc(); // Request GC to run
    System.out.println("End of main");
```

```
}
```

Important Notes on finalize():

- It is **not guaranteed** when or even if finalize() will be called.
- It is **deprecated** since Java 9 because it is unreliable and can cause performance issues.
- Instead of finalize(), use **try-with-resources** or explicit resource management.

Summary

| Concept | Description |
|-----------------------|--|
| Garbage Collection | Automatically deletes objects that are no longer referenced to free memory |
| finalize() method | A method called before GC deletes an object; used for cleanup but not reliable or recommended |

Method Overloading

1. Method Overloading

What is Method Overloading?

- Method Overloading means having multiple methods in the same class with the same name but different parameters (different type, number, or order).
- It lets you perform similar actions in different ways using the same method name.

Why use method overloading?

- Makes code easier to read.
- Allows the same method to handle different types of inputs.

Rules for Method Overloading:

Parameter Difference Allowed?

Different number of parameters Yes

Different types of parameters Yes

Different order of parameters Yes

Different return types only No (not enough to overload)

Example of Method Overloading:

```
java
CopyEdit
class Calculator {
    // add two integers
    int add(int a, int b) {
        return a + b;
```

```
}
 // add three integers
  int add(int a, int b, int c) {
   return a + b + c;
 }
 // add two double values
  double add(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
 }
}
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Calculator calc = new Calculator();
    System.out.println(calc.add(10, 20)); // Output: 30
   System.out.println(calc.add(10, 20, 30)); // Output: 60
    System.out.println(calc.add(5.5, 3.3)); // Output: 8.8
 }
}
```

2. Argument Passing in Java

How are arguments passed to methods?

- Java uses **pass-by-value** for all method arguments.
- What does this mean?

Explanation:

- When you pass a **primitive type** (like int, float), a **copy of the value** is passed.
- When you pass an **object**, a **copy of the reference** to the object is passed.

Pass-by-value for Primitives

```
java
CopyEdit
void change(int x) {
    x = 100; // changes local copy only
}
int a = 10;
change(a);
System.out.println(a); // Output: 10 (original value unchanged)
```

Pass-by-value for Objects

```
java
CopyEdit
class Box {
  int size;
}

void changeSize(Box b) {
  b.size = 50; // changes the object's size because reference points to the same object
}

Box box = new Box();
box.size = 10;
changeSize(box);
```

System.out.println(box.size); // Output: 50

- The reference to box is copied, but both references point to the same object.
- Changing the object via the reference affects the original object.

What about reassigning the reference?

```
java
CopyEdit
void changeBox(Box b) {
    b = new Box(); // b now points to a new object, but this doesn't affect the original reference
    b.size = 100;
}
Box box = new Box();
box.size = 10;
changeBox(box);
System.out.println(box.size); // Output: 10 (unchanged)
```

Summary

| Concept | Explanation |
|-----------------------|---|
| Method Overloading | Multiple methods with same name but different parameters |
| Argument Passing | Java always passes copy of value |
| Primitives | Copy of actual value is passed |
| Objects | Copy of reference is passed, so object can be changed inside method |

Object as Parameter and returning a Object

✓ 1. Object as Parameter in Java

What does it mean?

- You can pass an object of a class to a method as a parameter.
- The method can then access or modify the object's fields using that reference.

How does it work?

- When you pass an object to a method, a **copy of the reference** (memory address) to the object is passed.
- So both the caller and the method refer to the **same object**.
- Changes made to the object inside the method will affect the original object.

Example:

```
java
CopyEdit
class Person {
   String name;

Person(String name) {
    this.name = name;
   }
}
class Test {
   // method takes a Person object as parameter
```

```
void changeName(Person p) {
    p.name = "John"; // modifies the original object's field
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
    Person person = new Person("Alice");
    System.out.println("Before: " + person.name); // Output: Alice

    Test test = new Test();
    test.changeName(person);

    System.out.println("After: " + person.name); // Output: John
}
```

 The method changeName changed the original person object's name field because both refer to the same object.

2. Returning an Object from a Method in Java

What does it mean?

- A method can **create and return an object** to the caller.
- This allows the caller to get a new object or any object created inside the method.

Example:

```
java
CopyEdit
class Person {
String name;
```

```
Person(String name) {
   this.name = name;
 }
}
class Test {
 // method returns a Person object
  Person createPerson(String name) {
   Person p = new Person(name); // create new object
                      // return the object reference
   return p;
 }
  public static void main(String[] args) {
   Test test = new Test();
   Person person = test.createPerson("Bob");
   System.out.println(person.name); // Output: Bob
 }
}
```

- The method createPerson creates a new Person object and returns it.
- The caller stores the returned reference and uses the object.

Summary

| Concept | Explanation |
|-----------|---|
| Object as | Passing an object reference to a method, allowing method to |
| parameter | modify the object |

| Concept | Explanation |
|---------------------|---|
| Returning an object | Method creates or obtains an object and returns its reference to the caller |

Static

What is static in Java?

- The keyword static means "belongs to the class, not to instances (objects)".
- When a member (variable or method) is declared static, it means there is **only one copy shared by all objects** of that class.
- You don't need to create an object to access static members; you can use the class name directly.

Where can you use static?

- Static variables (also called class variables)
- Static methods
- Static blocks
- Static nested classes

1. Static Variables

- A **static variable** is shared among all instances (objects).
- If one object changes the value, it affects all other objects.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Counter {
    static int count = 0; // static variable

Counter() {
    count++; // increments when new object is created
    }
}
```

```
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Counter c1 = new Counter();
    Counter c2 = new Counter();
    Counter c3 = new Counter();

    System.out.println(Counter.count); // Output: 3
  }
}
```

- Even though we created 3 objects, there is **only one count variable shared** among them.
- Each constructor call increments the same static count.

2. Static Methods

- Static methods belong to the **class**, not objects.
- You can call static methods without creating an object.
- Static methods cannot access non-static (instance) variables or methods directly because those belong to objects.

```
java
CopyEdit
class MathUtil {
    static int square(int n) {
       return n * n;
    }
}
```

```
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    int result = MathUtil.square(5); // calling static method without object
    System.out.println(result); // Output: 25
  }
}
```

3. Static Block

- A static block runs once when the class is loaded.
- Useful to initialize static variables or perform one-time setup.

Example:

Output:

```
CopyEdit
class Example {
  static int data;

static {
  data = 100;  // initialize static variable
  System.out.println("Static block executed");
  }
}

public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
   System.out.println("Data = " + Example.data);
  }
}
```

java

CopyEdit

Static block executed

Data = 100

✓ 4. Static Nested Classes

- A static nested class is a class defined inside another class with static keyword.
- It can be accessed without an instance of the outer class.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Outer {
    static class Inner {
        void display() {
            System.out.println("Inside static nested class");
        }
    }
    public class Test {
        public static void main(String[] args) {
            Outer.Inner obj = new Outer.Inner();
            obj.display();
        }
}
```



| Feature | Description | Example usage |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Static Variable | Shared by all objects of the class | static int count |
| Static Method | Called using class name, no object needed | MathUtil.square(5) |
| Static Block | Runs once when class loads | Initialize static variables |
| Static Nested Class | Nested class accessed without outer class instance | Outer.Inner obj = new Outer.Inner() |

Access modofire

✓ What is Access Control in Java?

- Access control decides who can access members (variables, methods) of a class.
- It is controlled using access modifiers.
- Helps protect data and implementation details from unwanted access.

♦ Four Access Modifiers in Java

| Modifier | Where Accessible? | Meaning |
|-----------|--|--|
| public | Anywhere (any class, package, subclass, everywhere) | Fully accessible |
| private | Only inside the same class | Not accessible outside the class |
| protected | Same package + subclasses (even in different packages) | Accessible to subclasses and package classes |
| (default) | Same package only (when no modifier is used) | Package-private (default access) |

1. public

- Members declared public are accessible from anywhere.
- Usually used for methods and variables you want to expose.

```
java
CopyEdit
public class Person {
  public String name; // accessible everywhere
  public void display() {
```

```
System.out.println("Name: " + name);
}
```

2. private

- Members declared private are accessible only inside the same class.
- Used to hide internal details (data hiding).
- Cannot be accessed directly from outside.

Example:

```
java
CopyEdit
class Person {
    private int age; // only accessible inside Person class

    void setAge(int a) {
        if (a > 0) age = a; // setter method to control access
    }

    int getAge() {
        return age; // getter method to access private variable
    }
}
```

3. protected

- Accessible within the same package and in subclasses even if subclasses are in different packages.
- Useful for inheritance.

```
java
CopyEdit
package animals;
public class Animal {
 protected void sound() {
   System.out.println("Animal makes sound");
 }
}
java
CopyEdit
package animals;
public class Dog extends Animal {
 void bark() {
   sound(); // can access protected method from parent class
 }
}
```

4. Default Access (Package-Private)

- When no modifier is specified, access is limited to same package only.
- Not accessible outside the package.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Car {
  void start() {
    System.out.println("Car started");
```

```
}
```

• The start method can only be called by other classes in the same package.

Summary Table

Modifier Inside Class Same Package Subclass (diff package) Anywhere (world)

| public | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| private | Yes | No | No | No |
| protected | Yes | Yes | Yes | No |
| default | Yes | Yes | No | No |

Why is Access Control Important?

- Protects data (encapsulation).
- Helps maintain code integrity.
- Controls who can modify or use your class members.
- Makes your program more secure and modular

Final

What is final in Java?

- The keyword **final** is used to **declare constants or restrict something** so it cannot be changed or overridden.
- It can be applied to variables, methods, and classes.

How does final work in different contexts?

1. Final Variables

- When you declare a variable as final, its value cannot be changed once assigned.
- It means the variable becomes a constant.

Example:

java

CopyEdit

final int MAX_VALUE = 100;

MAX_VALUE = 200; // Error! Can't change a final variable.

- You must assign a final variable a value either at the time of declaration or in the constructor (if instance variable).
- After that, any attempt to change it will cause a **compile-time error**.

2. Final Methods

- When a method is declared final, it cannot be overridden by subclasses.
- Useful when you want to prevent changes to method behavior in child classes.

Example:

java

```
CopyEdit
class Parent {
  final void show() {
    System.out.println("Final method");
  }
}
class Child extends Parent {
  void show() { // Error! Can't override final method
    System.out.println("Override attempt");
  }
}
```

3. Final Classes

- When a class is declared final, it cannot be subclassed.
- Useful when you want to prevent inheritance.

```
java
CopyEdit
final class Animal {
    void sound() {
        System.out.println("Animal sound");
    }
}
class Dog extends Animal { // Error! Can't inherit from final class
}
```

Summary

Usage Effect

final variable Value cannot be changed (constant)

final method Method cannot be overridden

final class Class cannot be extended (no inheritance)

Why use final?

- Immutability: For constants and values that must not change.
- **Security:** Prevent accidental modification of methods or classes.
- **Performance:** JVM can optimize final variables and methods.

Nested class and inner class

✓ Nested Classes in Java

- A nested class is a class defined inside another class.
- It helps logically group classes that are only used in one place.
- There are two main types of nested classes:
 - 1. Static Nested Classes
 - 2. Inner Classes (non-static nested classes)

1. Static Nested Class

- A **static nested class** is declared with the static keyword inside another class.
- It behaves like a **static member** of the outer class.
- You **do not need an instance** of the outer class to create an object of the static nested class.
- It cannot access instance variables or methods of the outer class directly (because it's static).

```
java
CopyEdit
class Outer {
    static int data = 30;

    static class StaticNested {
       void display() {
          System.out.println("Data is " + data); // Can access static members of outer class
       }
    }
}
```

```
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Outer.StaticNested nested = new Outer.StaticNested(); // No outer object needed
    nested.display(); // Output: Data is 30
  }
}
```

2. Inner Class (Non-static Nested Class)

- An inner class is a non-static nested class.
- It belongs to an instance of the outer class.
- You **need an instance** of the outer class to create an object of the inner class.
- It can access all members (including private) of the outer class directly.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Outer {
  int data = 10;

  class Inner {
    void display() {
        System.out.println("Data is " + data); // Can access outer class instance variable
     }
  }
}

public class Test {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
```

```
Outer outer = new Outer(); // Create outer class object

Outer.Inner inner = outer.new Inner(); // Create inner class object using outer instance

inner.display(); // Output: Data is 10

}
```

Why use Nested and Inner Classes?

- Helps **group classes logically** and improve code organization.
- Inner classes can **access private members** of the outer class, useful in event handling or callbacks.
- Static nested classes are useful when the nested class is **independent of the** outer class instance.

Summary Table

| Туре | Declared With | Needs Outer Class Instance? | Can Access Outer Instance Members? | Example Usage |
|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Static Nested Class | static | No | No (only static members) | Utility/helper classes |
| Inner Class | No static | Yes | Yes | Accessing outer class members |

Command line arguments, variable - length arguments

✓ 1. Command Line Arguments in Java

What are Command Line Arguments?

- When you run a Java program, you can **pass extra information (arguments)** to the program via the command line.
- These arguments are received by the main method as an array of Strings.

How do they work?

The main method is defined as:

java

CopyEdit

public static void main(String[] args)

- args is an array of Strings that stores command line arguments.
- You can access each argument using args[0], args[1], etc.

```
java
CopyEdit
public class Test {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    System.out.println("Number of arguments: " + args.length);
    for (int i = 0; i < args.length; i++) {
        System.out.println("Argument " + i + ": " + args[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

How to run with arguments?

If you compile Test.java and run:

bash

CopyEdit

java Test Hello World 123

Output:

yaml

CopyEdit

Number of arguments: 3

Argument 0: Hello

Argument 1: World

Argument 2: 123

Why use command line arguments?

- To give input to the program without changing the code.
- Useful for configuration, filenames, or user inputs when running the program.

2. Variable-Length Arguments (Varargs)

What are Varargs?

- Varargs let you pass a variable number of arguments of the same type to a method.
- Instead of defining multiple methods with different numbers of parameters, you can use varargs.

Syntax:

java

CopyEdit

void methodName(type... varName)

- The ... means "zero or more arguments".
- Inside the method, varargs behave like an **array**.

```
java
CopyEdit
class Test {
 // Method with varargs
  static void printNumbers(int... numbers) {
   System.out.println("Number of arguments: " + numbers.length);
   for (int num: numbers) {
     System.out.print(num + " ");
   }
   System.out.println();
  }
  public static void main(String[] args) {
   printNumbers(1, 2, 3);
   printNumbers(10);
   printNumbers(); // no arguments
 }
}
Output:
javascript
CopyEdit
Number of arguments: 3
```

Number of arguments: 1

10

Number of arguments: 0

Rules for varargs:

- Varargs must be the **last parameter** in the method.
- You can have **only one varargs parameter** in a method.

Summary

| Concept | Explanation | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Command Line Args | Input passed to program via command line | public static void main(String[] args) |
| Varargs | Method parameter that accepts variable number of arguments | void print(int nums) |