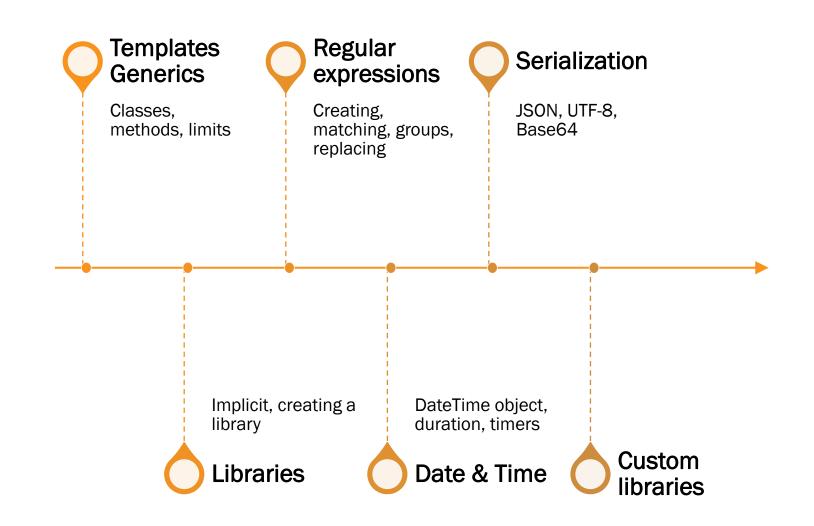


Agenda



Templates/ Generics

Templates (or generics!? – because there are some differences on how a template/generic is compiled in different languages) are used to avoid code duplication. Just like in C++ templates can be used for both methods and classes.

The general form a template is created:

```
class class_name \langle T_1, [T_2, ..., T_n] \rangle
{
      // described the class and use T_{1..n} within it
}
```

The concept is a little bit more generic as $T_{1..n}$ can be a type or a type that express an inheritance relationship:

- Example: T = type
- Example: T = type extends base_type

A very simple example:

```
class MyTemplate<T,G> {
       T obj_1;
       G obj_2;
       MyTemplate.init(T obj1, G obj2): obj_1 = obj1, obj_2 = obj2;
       void Print() {
              print("MyClass(obj_1 = ${obj_1.toString()},
                      obj_2 = ${obj_2.toString()})");
void main() {
       var m = MyTemplate<int, String>.init(10, "Text");
       m.Print(); // MyClass(obj_1 = 10, obj_2 = Text)
```

However, if in C++, templates are evaluated at runtime based on parameters types it, Dart language validates the template without looking into the type of parameters.

The previous code will not compile as type not all possible T have a plus operator (operator+) defined. In reality T is seen as something derived from Object, and not all Object objects have operator+ defined. This means that even if we write something like "MyTemplate<int>" the code will not compile.

The solution for the previous case is to use extended keyword to limit the type of a parametrized type.

This technique also works as a way to limit the types that can be used in a template / generic. In the following example, as T must be a sub-class of num, one can not use String create a template / generic based on MyTemplate.

A more complex example:

```
abstract class PrintInterface { void Print(); }
class MyTemplate<T extends PrintInterface> {
       void Print(T obj) => obj?.Print();
class MyInt extends PrintInterface {
       int i;
       MyInt(this.i);
       @override
       void Print() => print(i);
void main() {
       var m = MyTemplate<MyInt>();
       m.Print(MyInt(10)); // 10
```

However, extends keyword must be used. The same example will not compile if T just implements an interface. In this case, a compiler error will be raised. The same logic applies for mixins as well.

```
abstract class PrintInterface { void Print(); }
class MyTemplate<T implements PrintInterface> {
     void Print(T obj) => obj?.Print();
}
class MyInt extends PrintInterface {
     int i;
     MyInt(this.i);
     @override
     void Print() => print(i);
}
```

It is also possible to create generic/templatized method for a regular class.

```
class MyString {
    String data = "";
    void From<T>(T obj) => data = obj.toString();
}
void main() {
    var m = MyString();
    m.From<int>(10);
    print(m.data); // 10
    m.From<double>(1.23);
    print(m.data); // 1.23
}
```

Libraries

Libraries

Like any language, DART has a way to add additional functionality via external modules (called libraries). Dart comes with a set of predefined libraries, but custom libraries can be created as well. To use functionality from another library, use the keyword import.

```
import "uri";
import "uri" as <alias>;
```

It is also possible to import only a part of library (just some components)

```
import "uri" show <component>;
```

or to import an entire library but exclude some components.

```
import "uri" hide <component>;
```

Libraries

The "uri" used by the import system has the following format:

- 1. "dart:<name>" → for regular dart libraries
- 2. "package:<path>" → for dart packages
- 3. "<path>" → for a local files

The most common dart default packages:

Library	Functionality	
dart:math	Mathematical functions, constants, random number generator	
dart:collection	Collections (queues, stacks, trees, etc)	
dart:io	I/O support for non-web apps (file, sockets, http, etc)	
dart:convert	Data representation (e.g. JSON)	
dart:ffi & dart:typed_data	& dart:typed_data Foreign function integration (e.g. with C/C++ code) and fixed-sized data (e.g. 8-bit integers)	
and other		

Libraries – math module

Math module provides access to a lot of mathematical functions (sin, cos, tan, sqrt, etc), mathematical constants (pi, e, etc) and some geometrical structures (Point, Rectangle, etc).

Dart io module has a File object that can be used for file operators.

Constructors:

File (String path)	Creates a new File object
<pre>File.fromRawPath(UInt8List path)</pre>	Creates a new File object from a raw path
File.fromUri(UInt8List path)	Creates a new File object from an URI

File I/O operation can be synchronous and asynchronous. While both of them are supported by Dart, we will only discuss about synchronous operations in this course.

A very simple example of creating a file and writing some text into it.

```
import "dart:io";
void main() {
    File("a.txt").openWrite()..write("A new file was created")..close();
}
```

Or written in a more familiar way:

```
import "dart:io";
void main() {
     var f = File("a.txt").openWrite();
     f.write("A new file was created");
     f.close();
}
```

A File also has some properties (like its path, directory, URI, etc).

For programs that use File object it is best to compile them natively so that they can work with the existing OS functions.

A File object actually offers a set of quick functions that can provide different file operations: For example, the following code can be used to read the entire content of a File and display-it as a list of lines (List<String>)

Similarly, to write a content to a file, the following can be used:

```
File("a.txt").writeAsStringSync("Dart programming");
File("b.bin").writeAsBytesSync(<int>[1,2,3,4,5]);
```

A list of all methods supported by File object can be found here:

https://api.dart.dev/stable/<version>/dart-io/File-class.html

To simplify:

- Read related methods: readAsBytes, readAsBytesSync, readAsLines, readAsLinesSync, readAsString, readAsStringSync
- Write related methods: writeAsBytes, writeAsBytesSync, writeAsString, writeAsStringSync
- OS file related methods: rename, renameSync, exists, existsSync, delete, deleteSync, copy, copySync
- File information: lastAccesed, lastAccesed Sync, lastModified, lastModified Sync, length, length Sync

For each of these methods there are two forms (Sync or not (meaning asynchronously)). We will talk more about these forms when we discuss asynchronously support in Dart.

Libraries – dart:core

A series of libraries are already available in the dart:core module:

- O Different types: String, num, Map, etc
- Date time objects
- Regular expression support
- URI support
- o Runes
- Exception and Error support
- Async support (Future template)

Regular expressions

Dart has an object RegExp that is used to express a regular expression.

Constructor:

```
RegExp (String regexp, {
   bool multiLine = false,
   bool caseSensitive = true,
   bool unicode = false,
   bool dotAll = false}
)
Creates a new regular expression object.
There are several named parameters that can control string format:

• Multi-line support
• If it is case sensitive
• Unicode format
• ""

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• Multi-line support
• Unicode format
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**There are several named parameters that can control string format:
• ""

**There are several named parameters that can control string format:
• "
```

Properties:

bool RegExp.isCaseSensitive	If the regular expression is case sensitive			
bool RegExp.isDotAll	If '.' (dot) should represent all characters			
bool RegExp.isMultiLine	If the pattern represent a multi-line object			
bool RegExp.isUnicode	If the pattern is based on unicode			

Dart has an object RegExp that is used to express a regular expression.

Methods:

```
Iterable<RegExpMatch> RegExp.allMatches(String input, [int start = 0])
RegExpMatch? RegExp.firstMatch(String input)
bool RegExp.hasMatch(String input)
Match? RegExp.matchAsPrefix(String input, [int start = 0])
String RegExp.stringMatch(String input)
```

All of these methods can be used to test regular expression matchings.

OBS: usually, the input string is a raw string (to avoid de-duplication of '\' characters)

A simple example:

```
void main() {
       var r = RegExp(r"[0-9]+");
       print(r.hasMatch("Hello 1234 world"));  // true
       print(r.stringMatch("Hello 1234 world")); // 1234
       print(r.matchAsPrefix("Hello 1234 world")); // null
       var res = r.matchAsPrefix("Hello 1234 world",6);
       if (res != null)
              print("${res.start}, ${res.end}"); // 6, 10
```

If we want to find all matches we can use the <u>allMatches</u> method. The next example finds all words from a sentence.

```
void main() {
    var r = RegExp(r"\w+");
    var s = "Hello world in Dart language";
    for (var i in r.allMatches(s)) {
        print("${i.start},${i.end} => ${i.group(0)}");
    }
}

Output

0,5 => Hello
6,11 => world
12,14 => in
15,19 => Dart
20,28 => language
```

Similarly, some method from String object allow using regular expressions. One such method is split that can be used with regular expressions.

```
void main() {
       var r = RegExp(r"\s+");
                                               language";
       var s = "Hello world
                           in
                                  Dart
       for (var i in s.split(r)) {
                                                                   Output
              print(i);
                                                                   Hello
                                                                   world
                                                                   in
                                                                   Dart
                                                                   language
```

As an alternative, one can write things like this:

```
for (var i in "Hello world in Dart language" .split(RegExp(r"\s+"))) {
     print(i);
```

Beside "Split" other methods from class String that use Regular expression as parameters are:

```
bool
       String.contains(Pattern p, [int start = 0])
       String.startsWith(Pattern p, [int start = 0])
bool
int
       String.indexOf(Pattern p, [int start = 0])
       String.lastIndexOf(Pattern p, [int start?])
int
String String.replaceAll(Pattern p, String replace)
String String.replaceFirst(Pattern p, String replace, [int start = 0])
String String.replaceAllMapped(Pattern p, String fnc(Match m))
String String.replaceFirstMapped(Pattern p, String fnc(Match m),[int start=0])
String String.splitMapJoin(Pattern p, {String onMatch(Match)?,
                                       String onNonMatch(String)?} )
```

A "Pattern" class is a class that can represent a form of string data use for various operation (comparation, finding, etc).

A pattern instance can be both:

- 1. A regular string
- 2. A regular expression

as it implements both RegExp and String interfaces.

This example shows how replace function works with regular expression.

The second case actually uses the result of the regular expression (m[0] is actually the string that matched).

Groups are also available and one case use the operator to access each representative of a group. There is also a groupCount property that tells you how many groups are there (keep in mind that the total number of groups is larger by 1 unit as operator to access each representative of a group. There is also a groupCount property that tells you how many groups are there (keep in mind that the total number of groups is larger by 1 unit as operator to access each representative of a group.

```
void main() {
  var r = RegExp(r"([0-9]{1,3})\.([0-9]{1,3})\.([0-9]{1,3})\.([0-9]{1,3})");
  var s = "The server IP is 127.5.9.255";
  var m = r.firstMatch(s);
  if (m != null) {
       print("Groups = ${m.groupCount}");
       for (var i =0;i<=m.groupCount;i++) {
            print(m[i]);
        }
       }
    }
}</pre>
```

Date & Time

For date/time operations Dart has two objects: DateTime and Duration

Constructor:

```
DateTime (int year, [int month = 1, int day = 1, int hour = \theta,
                     int minute = 0, int second = 0, int millisecond = 0,
                     int microsecond = 0])
DateTime.fromMicrosecondsSinceEpoch(int microsecondsSinceEpoch,
                                     {bool isUtc = false})
DateTime.fromMillisecondsSinceEpoch(int millisecondsSinceEpoch,
                                     {bool isUtc = false})
DateTime.now()
DateTime.utc(int year, [int month = 1, int day = 1, int hour = 0,
                        int minute = 0, int second = 0, int millisecond = 0,
                        int microsecond = 0])
```

A simple example:

```
void main() {
    var d = DateTime.now();
    print(d); // yyyy-mm-dd hh:mm:ss.msec
    d = DateTime(1900,1,1,12,30,45);
    print(d); // 1900-01-01 12:30:45.000
    d = DateTime.fromMicrosecondsSinceEpoch(10000);
    print(d); // 1970-01-01 02:00:00.010
    print("Year = ${d.year}, Day=${d.day}"); // Year = 1970, Day=1
    print("Day of week = ${d.weekday}"); // Day of week = 4
}
```

In term of properties a DateTime object has: year, month, day, weekday, hour, minute, second, millisecond, millisecondsSinceEpoch, microsecond and microsecondsSinceEpoch.

For date/time operations Dart has two objects: DateTime and Duration Methods:

DateTime	DateTime.add (Duration d)	
DateTime	DateTime.substract (Duration d)	
int	DateTime.compareTo (DateTime d)	
bool	DateTime.isAfter (DateTime d)	
bool	DateTime.isBefore (DateTime d)	
bool	DateTime.isAtSameMomentAs (DateTime d)	
DateTime	DateTime.toLocal ()	
DateTime	DateTime.toUtc ()	

For Duration object is used to compute differences between different moments in time: Constructor:

This is a const constructor → meaning that the resulted object will be const as well. A duration object supports various operators (+, - < <= > >= == !=) and has the following properties:

int	Duration.inDays	int	Duration.inSeconds
int	Duration.inHours	int	Duration.inMilliseconds
int	Duration.inMinutes	int	Duration.inMicroseconds

A simple example:

```
void main() {
    var d1 = DateTime(2000,1,1,12,30);
    var d2 = d1.add(Duration(days:3,minutes:10));
    print(d1); // 2000-01-01 12:30:00.000
    print(d2); // 2000-01-04 12:40:00.000
    print(d1.compareTo(d2)); // -1
    print(d2.difference(d1).inMinutes); // 4330
}
```

DateTime object also has some static methods that can be used to parse a string and obtain the date time that corresponds to that textual format:

Static methods:

```
DateTime DateTime.parse (String txt)
DateTime? DateTime.tryParse (String txt)
```

The following strings are accepted forms for the parser:

yyyy-MM-dd	yyyyMMdd hh:mm:ss
yyyy-MM-dd hh:mm:ss	yyyyMMddThhmmss
yyyy-MM-dd hh:mm:ss.msz	yyyyMMdd
yyyy-MM-dd hh:mm:ss,msz	yyyy-MM-ddThhZ

A simple example:

Make sure that you respect the format. For example, the following example will throw an exception:

```
void main() {
    print(DateTime.parse("2000/05/10"));  // runtime EXCEPTION
}
```

To measure the time that passes while doing different operations, Dart has another class called Stopwatch.

Methods:

void	Startwatch.start ()
void	Startwatch.stop ()
void	Startwatch.reset ()

Properties:

Duration Startwatch.elapsed	
int	Startwatch.elapsedMicroseconds
int	Startwatch.elapsedMilliseconds
bool	Startwatch.isRunning

A simple example:

```
void main() {
       var timer = Stopwatch();
       timer.start();
       var counter = 0, mod = 2;
       for (var i = 0;i<10000000;i++) {</pre>
               if ((i % mod)==0) {
                      counter++; mod++;
                      if (mod>10) mod = 2;
       timer.stop();
       print("Algorithm time: ${timer.elapsed.inSeconds} seconds,
              found $counter values");
```

Data serialization

Data serialization

Dart has a library: dart:convert that has multiple classes designed to allow conversion between different data types:

- JSON
- Base64
- Ascii
- UTF8
- Latin1
- HTML escape

These object allow quick processing (via strings) for different types of text based formats.

Two classes (JsonEncoder and JsonDecoder) and binding class (JsonCodec). Constructors:

```
JsonEncoder ([Object? toEncodable(dynamic obj)?])
JsonEncoder.withIndent (String? indent, [Object? toEncodable(dynamic obj)?])
JsonDecoder ([Object? reviver(Object? key, Object? value)?])
```

Methods:

```
String JsonEncoder.convert (Object? obj)
dynamic JsonDecoder.convert (String input)
```

A simple example (serialize):

```
import "dart:convert";

void main() {
    var json = JsonEncoder();
    var x = [1,2,3,4];
    var s = json.convert(x);
    print(s.runtimeType);  // String
    print(s);  // [1,2,3,4]
}
```

To pretty format the out, use the .withIndent named constructor:

```
import "dart:convert";
void main() {
       var json = JsonEncoder.withIndent(" ");
       var x = [1,2,3,4];
       var s = json.convert(x);
       print(s); // [
```

The same logic works for maps as well. In case of maps, the keys <u>MUST</u> be of type string, otherwise a runtime error will be thrown

The same logic works for maps as well. In case of maps, the keys MUST be of type string, otherwise a runtime error will be thrown.

In this example we have changed the map to use integer keys. The code will compile but will throw a runtime error.

The following code decodes a JSON from a string. As a general idea, use Map<String,dynamic> whenever these objects are decoded as the values can be anything!

```
import "dart:convert";
void main() {
       var json = JsonDecoder();
       var s = """{
              "Name": "Dragos",
               "Grades": {
                      "Dart": 10,
                      "Math": 9
       Map<String,dynamic> res = json.convert(s);
       print("Name=${res['Name']}, Math=${res['Grades']['Math']}");
```

Serializing an object to JSON needs some adjustments. Simply sending an object of some sort to a JSON encoder will not work.

First solution for this problem is to provide a toEncodable function when creating the JsonEncoder object.

```
import "dart:convert";
class Test { int x=10,y=20; }
Object? EncodeSomething(dynamic obj) {
       if (obj is Test) {
              var t = obj as Test;
              return {"Test":"x=${t.x},y=${t.y}"};
       return null;
void main() {
       var s = JsonEncoder( EncodeSomething ).convert(Test());
       print(s); // {"Test":"x=10,y=20"}
```

The second solution is to add a .toJson method in the object that you want to serialized as a JSON.

```
import "dart:convert";

class Test {
    int x=10,y=20;

    String toJson() => "x=${x}, y=${y}";
}

void main() {
    var s = JsonEncoder().convert({"MyKey":Test()});
    print(s); // {"MyKey":"x=10, y=20"}
}
```

To decode an object from a Json, one may move the decoding logic into the class itself by creating a constructor that receives the string format from the Json object.

```
import "dart:convert";
class Test {
       int x = 0, y = 0;
       Test.fromJson(String s) {
              var parser = RegExp(r"x=(\d+),\s+y=(\d+)").firstMatch(s);
              x = int.parse(parser?.group(1) ?? "0");
              y = int.parse(parser?.group(2) ?? "0");
void main() {
       var m = JsonDecoder().convert("""{"MyKey":"x=10, y=20"}""");
       var t = Test.fromJson(m["MyKey"]); print("${t.x}, ${t.y}"); // 10,20
```

Another solution is to use a reviver function and to pass it as a parameter to the constructor of JsonDecoder class.

```
import "dart:convert";
class Test { int x = 0, y = 0;
       Test.fromJson(String s) { /* same method from the previous slide */ }
Object? MyConvertor(Object? key, Object? value) {
       if ((key!=null) && (key.toString() == "MyKey")) // a Test object
              return Test.fromJson(value!=null?value.toString(): "");
       return value;
void main() {
   var m = JsonDecoder( MyConvertor ).convert("""{"MyKey":"x=10, y=20"}""");
   print((m["MyKey"] as Test).x); // 10
```

UTF-8

Two classes (Utf8Encoder and Utf8Decoder) and binding class (Utf8Codec). Constructors:

```
Utf8Encoder ()
Utf8Decoder ({bool allowMalformed = false})
```

Methods:

```
UInt8List Utf8Encoder.convert (String input, [int start = 0, int? end])
String Utf8Decoder.convert (List<int> input, [int start = 0, int? end])
```

There is also a constant object define (utf8 of type Utf8Codec) that can be used so that there is no need to create an encoder / decoder. A codec has two method: .encode and .decode that pretty much call encode and <a href="lencoder.convert(...).

UTF-8

A simple example:

```
import "dart:convert";
void main() {
       var u8 = Utf8Encoder().convert("românește");
       print(u8); // [114, 111, 109, 195, 162, 110, 101, 200, 153, 116, 101]
       var txt = Utf8Decoder().convert(u8);
       print(txt); // românește
       var diacritice = utf8.encode("ăîșțĂÎȘŢ");
       print(diacritice); // [196, 131, 195, 174, 200, 153, 200, 155, 196,
                          // 130, 195, 142, 200, 152, 200, 154]
       txt = utf8.decode(diacritice);
       print(txt); // ăîșțĂÎȘŢ
```

Ascii

Two classes (AsciiEncoder and AsciiDecoder) and binding class (AsciiCodec). Constructors:

```
AsciiEncoder ()
AsciiDecoder ({bool allowInvalid = false})
```

Methods:

```
UInt8List AsciiEncoder.convert (String input, [int start = 0, int? end])
String AsciiDecoder.convert (List<int> input, [int start = 0, int? end])
```

There is also a constant object define (ascii of type AsciiCodec) that can be used so that there is no need to create an encoder / decoder. A codec has two method: encode and decode that pretty much call encoder.convert(...) and decoder.convert(...).

Ascii

A simple example:

```
import "dart:convert";

void main()
{
    var s = "Hello world";
    var e = ascii.encode(s);
    print(e); // [72, 101, 108, 108, 111, 32, 119, 111, 114, 108, 100]
    print(ascii.decode(e)); // Hello world
}
```

Base64

Two classes (Base64Encoder and Base64Decoder) and binding class (Base64Codec). Constructors:

```
Base64Encoder ()
Base64Decoder ()
```

Methods:

```
String Base64Encoder.convert (List<int> obj)
UInt8List Base64Decoder.convert (String input, [int start = 0, int? end])
```

There is also a constant object define (base64 of type Base64Codec) that can be used so that there is no need to create an encoder / decoder.

Base64

To decode / encode from strings it is easier to use the utf8 object.

The same result will be available is **base64** constant object is used with methods encode and decode.

```
var b64 = base64.encode (utf8.encode("Hello Dart"));
var bytes = base64.decode (b64);
```

HTML escape

Dart provides a class HtmlEscape that is useful to translate non-HTML characters such as < & " / into their escaped value that can be used make sure that an HTML is valid.

Constructor:

HtmlEscape ([HtmlEscapeMode mode = HtmlEscapeMode.unknown])

Methods:

String HtmlEscape.convert (String input)

There is also a constant object define (https://htmlescape of type HtmlEscape) that can be used so that there is no need to create an object.

HTML escape

A simple example:

In this case '&' is converted to & amp; , '>' is converted into >

Dart can import a dart file from different locations. Let's consider the following disk organization:

```
int Sum(int x, int y) => x+y;
int Multiply(int x, int y) => x*y;

import "utils.dart";

void main() {
    print(Sum(10,20));
    print(Multiply(3,5));
}
```

You can run this code via "dart.exe main.dart" and It will print on the screen 30 and 15

The same code applies for classes as well:

```
class Math {
    int _x = 0;
    int Add(int a) => _x+a;
    void Set(int value) => _x = value;
}

import "utils.dart";
void main() {
    var m = Math();
    m.Set(10);
    print(m.Add(20));
}
```

Upon execution, this code will write 30 on the screen.

In this case, "_x" is considered private and can not be used outside its file. class Math { utils.dart int $_x = 0$; main.dart int Add(int a) => _x+a; void Set(int value) => _x = value; import "utils.dart"; void main() { var m = Math(); m._x = 10; // Error: The setter '_x' isn't defined // for the class 'Math'.

The same code will work if you use a tree-like folders/sub-folders distribution:

```
class Math {
src/utils.dart
                          int _x = 0;
 main.dart
                          int Add(int a) => _x+a;
                          void Set(int value) => _x = value;
                   import "src/utils.dart";
                   void main() {
                           var m = Math();
                           m.Set(10);
                           print(m.Add(20));
```

Upon execution, this code will write 30 on the screen.

A class can also be private if its name is preceded by character.

```
class _Math {
utils.dart
                          int Sum(int x, int y) => x+y;
main.dart
                  int Add(int x,int y) => _Math().Sum(x,y);
                  import "utils.dart";
                  void main() {
                      var m = _Math(); // Compiler error (_Math is private)
                  import "utils.dart";
                   void main() {
                      print(Add(1,2)); // OK -> will print 3
```

A class can also be private if its name is preceded by character.

```
class _Math {
    int Sum(int x, int y) => x+y;
}
int Add(int x,int y) => _Math().Sum(x,y);

import "utils.dart" as utils;
void main() {
    print(utils.Add(1,2)); // OK -> will print 3
}
```

There are no namespaces in Dart. However, when importing from a dart file, an alias can be created and all classes / methods from that file will be associated with that alias creating some sort of namespace.

