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Lesson Plan 12

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1. **How do you define a method that takes an arbitrary number of arguments?**

Parameter arrays are useful if we want to write methods that can take any number of arguments.

1. **How do you call a method that takes an arbitrary number of arguments?**

Class Program

{

public static int Crazy(int[ ] paramList)

{ ……………………………………}

}

For the above parameter array, the method can be called as the following:

Crazy(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

1. **Why can’t you use an array to pass an arbitrary number of arguments to a method?**

This is because we have to declare the fixed numbers of arguments that we want to pass into the array. After the size has been declared we cannot pass more arguments than that.

1. **Do parameter arguments have to have the same type?**

Yes, the parameter arguments have to have the same type.

1. **What is the difference between a method that takes parameter argument and one that takes optional argument?**

A method that takes optional parameter still has a fixed parameter list, and we can nit pass an arbitrary list of arguments. The compiler generates code that inserts the default values onto the stack for any missing arguments before the method runs, and the method is not aware of which of the arguments are provided by the caller and which are compiler-generated defaults.

A method that uses a parameter array effectively has a completely arbitrary list of parameters and none of them has a default value. The method can determine exactly how many arguments the caller provided.