**//---------------------------------------------------------- Classes -----------------------------------------------------------//**

/\* A Software models real world things (goods, cars, spheres) or abstract concepts like vectors, list, stacks etc as Objects.\*/  
// All those real world or abstract Objects have two distinct characteristics - State and Behaviour  
// State - characteristics which define the condition of object at a given moment / general time  
// State - represented by values of data members / fields / member variables  
// Behaviour - specific distinctive actions that can be done by the objects   
// Behaviour – modelled or implemented by function members/ methods  
// Class - User defined data type with template for field data & members which operate on this data(contructors,properties,methods,events,etc)  
// The data members of class - field and properties are collectively called Attributes.  
/\* Properties - special elements which control access to fields, extend the functionality of the fields by giving the ability of extra data management when extracting and recording it in the class fields (using get , set). In other words, properties are the way to describe the **characteristics** of a given class. Usually, the value of the characteristics is kept in the fields of the object. Similar to the fields, the properties may be held by certain object or to be shared among the rest of the objects. \*/   
// Objects - Variables of this user-defined data type/class; called Instances of the class; object creation: Instantiation  
// The values in the fields, reflect the specific state of the given object; other types of fields, called **static**, are shared among all the objects.  
// The state is specific to instance/object but behaviour is common to all instances of the class.  
// **Constructor** – used for **initializing & creating new objects**.

class EmptyMan // class - keyword, followed by valid C# identifier  
{  
 // State, Behaviour are all optional  
} // Empty class has many uses: Marker interfaces, Type parameters in generics, Singleton pattern, Placeholder Code, etc

public partial class Molecules // Syntax: Access-modifier Type-modifier class ClassName  
{  
 public int radius; // Instance Variable: All objects will have their own copy/different value of this field.  
 public float velocity;  
 public float charge;  
 public string name;  
 protected double VolumeConstant = 4 \* Math.PI / 3; //   
 public void PrintState()  
 {  
 Console.WriteLine("This {0} molecule is moving with a speed {1}",name,velocity);  
 }  
 public void RadiusChange(int delta) => radius += delta;  
}

// **Properties** : way to **encapsulate** fields (or class’ data) in a class by providing controlled access to them (expose data of a class to outside while keeping control) by defining how values are accessed and modified (how data is read, written, or modified/ compute the value of a private field). Helps in maintaining the integrity of the data. Properties provide a cleaner and more intuitive syntax than traditional getter and setter methods.  
public class Patient  
{   
 private string name; // Private field; cannot be accessed/ modified directly from outside ; sensitive information   
 public string Name // Property Name Is declared (public) which can now be used to access, modify the private field name  
 {  
 get { return name; } // Using get *accessor* to return private field name  
 set // set *accessor* used to assign value; may include additional logic, like validation, formatting, events etc  
 {   
 if (!string.IsNullOrEmpty(**value**)) // Customizing set method using a check/validation  
 {  
 name = **value**; // **value** is a keyword  
 }  
 }   
 }  
 }  
Patient patient = new Patient();  
patient.Name = “Harry”; // Setting the value via property, since name field is private  
string data = patient.Name; // Calls get

A structure is a value type that derives implicitly from [System.ValueType](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.valuetype), which in turn is derived from [System.Object](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.object). Like classes, structures define both data (the fields of the structure) and the operations that can be performed on that data (the methods of the structure). This means that you can call methods on structures, including the virtual methods defined on the [System.Object](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.object) and [System.ValueType](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.valuetype) classes, and any methods defined on the value type itself. In other words, structures can have fields, properties, and events, as well as static and nonstatic methods. You can create instances of structures, pass them as parameters, store them as local variables, or store them in a field of another value type or reference type. Structures can also implement interfaces.

Value types also differ from classes in several respects. First, although they implicitly inherit from [System.ValueType](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.valuetype), they cannot directly inherit from any type. Similarly, all value types are sealed, which means that no other type can be derived from them. They also do not require constructors.

**#**Objects in OOP combine data and the means for their processing in one. They correspond to objects in real world and contain data and actions:

**Class:  
#**The **class** defines abstract characteristics of objects. It provides a structure for objects or a pattern which we use to describe the nature of something (some object). **Classes are building blocks of OOP** and are inseparably related to the **objects**. Furthermore, each object is an **instance** of exactly one specific class.

We are going to give as an **example a class and an object**, which is its instance. We have a **class Dog** and an **object Lassie**, which is an instance of the class **Dog** (we say it is an object of type **Dog**). The class **Dog** describes the characteristics of all dogs whereas **Lassie** is a certain dog.   
  
**Class** in the OOP is called a definition (**specification**) of a given type of objects from the real-world. The class represents a pattern, which describes the different states and behavior of the certain objects (the copies), which are created from this class (pattern).

**Object** is a copy created from the definition (specification) of a given class, also called an **instance**. When one object is created by the description of one class we say **the object is from type "name of the class"**.  
**#**The class defines the **characteristics of an object** (which we are going to call **attributes**) and its **behavior** (actions that can be performed by the object). The attributes of the class are defined as its own variables in its body (called **member variables**). The behavior of objects is modeled by the definition of **methods** in classes.

**#**In the context of such behavior the object consists of two things: current **state** and **behavior** defined in the class of the object. The state is specific for the instance (the object), but the behavior is common for all objects which are instances of this class.

A **class** in C# is defined by the keyword **class**, followed by an identifier (name) of the class and a set of data members and methods in a separate code block.

**Classes** in C# can contain the following elements:

- **Fields** – member-variables from a certain type;   
- **Properties** – these are a special type of elements, which extend the functionality of the fields by giving the ability of extra data management when extracting and recording it in the class fields;   
- **Methods** – they implement the manipulation of the data.

public class Cat

{

// Field name

private string name;

// Field color

private string color;

public string Name

{

// Getter of the property "Name"

get

{

return this.name;

}

// Setter of the property "Name"

set

{

this.name = value;

}

}

public string Color

{

// Getter of the property "Color"

get

{

return this.color;

}

// Setter of the property "Color"   
set

{

this.color = value;

}

}

// Default constructor

public Cat()

{

this.name = "Unnamed";

this.color = "gray";

}

// Constructor with parameters

public Cat(string name, string color)

{

this.name = name;

this.color = color;

}

// Method SayMiau

public void SayMiau()

{

Console.WriteLine("Cat {0} said: Miauuuuuu!", name);

}

}   
The example class **Cat** defines the **properties Name** and **Color**, which keep their values in the hidden (private) **fields name** and **color**. Furthermore, two **constructors** are defined for creating instances of the class **Cat**, respectively with and without parameters, and a **method** of the class **SayMiau()**.  
After the example class is defined we can now use it in the following way:   
static void Main()

{

Cat firstCat = new Cat();

firstCat.Name = "Tony";

firstCat.SayMiau();

Cat secondCat = new Cat("Pepy", "red");

secondCat.SayMiau();

Console.WriteLine("Cat {0} is {1}.",

secondCat.Name, secondCat.Color);

}

Calling the method **Console.WriteLine(…)** of the class **System.Console** is an example of usage of a **system class** in C#. We call system classes the classes defined in **standard libraries** for building applications with C# for example the classes **String**, **Environment** and **Math .**It is important to know that the implementation of the logic in classes is **encapsulated** (hidden) inside them. For the programmer it is important what they do, not how they do it and for this reason a great part of the classes is not publicly available (**public**). With system classes the implementation is often not available at all to the programmer. Thus, new **layers of abstraction** are created which is one of the basic principles in OOP.