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How to stop Serialization in Java

O November 12, 2016 A SJ 🗁 Serialization 🔘 0

In this article, we will discuss how to stop serialization to happen for a serializable class.

One would wonder why we need to stop a serialization that too for a class which is marked as serializable by implementing java.io.Serializable interface

I had same thinking, after interviewer asked me this question?

Let us move on and discuss how to stop serialization

Override writeObject() method and throw IOException and similarly we can write logic for readObject() method for de-serialization process

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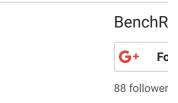
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Customer.java

```
package in.bench.resources.stop.serialization;
 12345678
     import java.io.IOException;
     import java.io.ObjectOutputStream;
     import java.io.Serializable;
     class Customer implements Serializable {
 9
         // member variables for Customer
10
         transient int customerId;
11
         String customerName;
12
         transient String customerSSN;
13
14
         // 3-arg parameterized constructor for Cust
15
         public Customer(int customerId, String cust
16
                  String customerSSN) {
17
              super();
18
             this.customerId = customerId;
19
              this.customerName = customerName;
20
              this.customerSSN = customerSSN;
21
         }
22
23
         /**
24
            this method invoked automatically during
25
26
          * @param objectOutputStream
27
          * @throws Exception
28
29
         private void writeObject(ObjectOutputStream
30
                  throws Exception {
31
32
33
              // don't provide implementation details
             throw new IOException("No serialization
34
         }
35
     }
```

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Test class for serialization

SerializeCustomer.java

```
package in.bench.resources.stop.serialization?
 1
2
3
     import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
 4
     import java.io.FileOutputStream;
 5
6
7
     import java.io.IOException;
     import java.io.ObjectOutputStream;
 8
     public class SerializeCustomer {
9
10
         public static void main(String[] args) {
11
12
             // create a customer object using 3-arg
13
             Customer customer = new Customer(101,
14
15
             // creating output stream variables
16
             FileOutputStream fos = null;
17
             ObjectOutputStream oos = null;
18
19
             try {
   // for writing or saving binary dat
20
```



```
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
                   fos = new FileOutputStream("Custome
                   // converting java-object to binary
                   oos = new ObjectOutputStream(fos);
                   // writing or saving customer object
                   oos.writeObject(customer);
                   oos.flush();
                   oos.close();
               catch (FileNotFoundException fnfex) {
                    fnfex.printStackTrace();
               catch (IOException ioex) {
                    ioex.printStackTrace();
36
               }
37
          }
38
     }
```

Output:

```
java.io.IOException: No serialization not all
 123456789
          at in.bench.resources.stop.serialization.Cu
     Customer.java:33)
          at sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.inv
     Native Method)
          at sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.inv
     NativeMethodAccessorImpl.java:62)
          at sun.reflect.DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl
     DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl.java:43)
10
          at java.lang.reflect.Method.invoke(
11
     Method. java: 498)
     at java.io.ObjectStreamClass.invokeWriteObj
ObjectStreamClass.java:1028)
at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeSerialDa
12
13
14
15
     ObjectOutputStream.java:1496)
16
          at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeOrdinary
17
     ObjectOutputStream.java:1432)
18
          at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeObjectO(
19
     ObjectOutputStream.java:1178)
20
          at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeObject(
21
     ObjectOutputStream.java:348)
22
          at in.bench.resources.stop.serialization.Se
     SerializeCustomer.java:27)
```

This example is to test whether we know about internal details of serialization and de-serialization process

- Controlling serialization by overriding writeObject() method
- Controlling de-serialization by overriding readObject() method

References:

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/Serializable.html

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/platform/serialization/spec/serial-arch.html

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/ObjectOutputStream.html

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/ObjectInput Stream.html

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/FileOutputStream.html

https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/FileInputStream.html

http://docs.oracle.com/javase/specs/jls/se7/html/jls-8.html#jls-8.3.1.3

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