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How to stop Serialization in Java

🕒 November 12, 2016 👤 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

Customer.java

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```

1 package in.bench.resources.stop.serialization;
2
3 import java.io.IOException;
4 import java.io.ObjectOutputStream;
5 import java.io.Serializable;
6
7 class Customer implements Serializable {
8
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        // don't provide implementation details
33        throw new IOException("No serialization
34    }
35 }

```



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Test class for serialization



SerializeCustomer.java

```

1 package in.bench.resources.stop.serialization;
2
3 import java.io.FileNotFoundException;
4 import java.io.FileOutputStream;
5 import java.io.IOException;
6 import java.io.ObjectOutputStream;
7
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 {
20            // for writing or saving binary dat

```

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```

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

```

Output:

```

1 java.io.IOException: No serialization not all(?)
2     at in.bench.resources.stop.serialization.Cu
3 Customer.java:33)
4     at sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.inv
5 Native Method)
6     at sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.inv
7 NativeMethodAccessorImpl.java:62)
8     at sun.reflect.DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl
9 DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl.java:43)
10    at java.lang.reflect.Method.invoke(
11 Method.java:498)
12    at java.io.ObjectStreamClass.invokeWriteObj
13 ObjectStreamClass.java:1028)
14    at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeSerialDa
15 ObjectOutputStream.java:1496)
16    at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeOrdinary
17 ObjectOutputStream.java:1432)
18    at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeObject(
19 ObjectOutputStream.java:1178)
20    at java.io.ObjectOutputStream.writeObject(
21 ObjectOutputStream.java:348)
22    at in.bench.resources.stop.serialization.Se
23 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>
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<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/FileOutputStream.html>
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<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/specs/jls/se7/html/jls-8.html#jls-8.3.1.3>

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