The Hashtable class represents a collection of **key-and-value pairs** that are organized based on the hash code of the key. It uses the key to access the elements in the collection.

A hash table is used when you need to access elements by using **key**, and you can identify a useful key value. Each item in the hash table has a key/value pair. The key is used to access the items in the collection.

Methods and Properties of the Hashtable Class

The following table lists some of the commonly used **properties** of the **Hashtable** class –

Sr.No. **Property & Description** Count 1 Gets the number of key-and-value pairs contained in the Hashtable. **IsFixedSize** 2 Gets a value indicating whether the Hashtable has a fixed size. **IsReadOnly** 3 Gets a value indicating whether the Hashtable is read-only. **Item** 4 Gets or sets the value associated with the specified key. **Kevs** 5 Gets an ICollection containing the keys in the Hashtable. Values 6 Gets an ICollection containing the values in the Hashtable.

The following table lists some of the commonly used **methods** of the **Hashtable** class –

```
Sr.No. Method & Description

public virtual void Add(object key, object value);

Adds an element with the specified key and value into the Hashtable.

public virtual void Clear();

Removes all elements from the Hashtable.

public virtual bool ContainsKey(object key);

Determines whether the Hashtable contains a specific key.
```

```
public virtual bool ContainsValue(object value);
```

Determines whether the Hashtable contains a specific value.

public virtual void Remove(object key);

Removes the element with the specified key from the Hashtable.

Example

4

5

The following example demonstrates the concept –

```
using System;
using System.Collections;
namespace CollectionsApplication {
   class Program {
      static void Main(string[] args) {
         Hashtable ht = new Hashtable();
         ht.Add("001", "maitri");
         ht.Add("002", "dikshita");
         ht.Add("003", "dhruvita");
ht.Add("004", "shruchita");
ht.Add("005", "niketa");
         ht.Add("006", "bansri");
         ht.Add("007", "dipika");
         if (ht.ContainsValue("Nuha Ali")) {
             Console.WriteLine("This student name is already in the list");
          } else {
             ht.Add("008", "Nuha Ali");
         // Get a collection of the keys.
          ICollection key = ht.Keys;
          foreach (string k in key) {
             Console.WriteLine(k + ": " + ht[k]);
         Console.ReadKey();
      }
}
```

Various Collection Classes and Their Usage

The following are the various commonly used classes of the **System.Collection** namespace. Click the following links to check their detail.

Sr.No.

Class & Description and Useage

ArrayList

It represents ordered collection of an object that can be **indexed** individually.

It is basically an alternative to an array. However, unlike array you can add and remove items from a list at a specified position using an **index** and the array resizes itself automatically. It also allows dynamic memory allocation, adding, searching and sorting items in the list.

Hashtable

It uses a **key** to access the elements in the collection.

2

A hash table is used when you need to access elements by using key, and you can identify a useful key value. Each item in the hash table has a **key/value** pair. The key is used to access the items in the collection.

SortedList

It uses a **key** as well as an **index** to access the items in a list.

A sorted list is a combination of an array and a hash table. It contains a list of items that can be accessed using a key or an index. If you access items using an index, it is an ArrayList, and if you access items using a key, it is a Hashtable. The collection of items is always sorted by the key value.

Stack

It represents a **last-in, first out** collection of object.

It is used when you need a last-in, first-out access of items. When you add an item in the list, it is called **pushing** the item and when you remove it, it is called **popping** the item.

Queue

It represents a **first-in**, **first out** collection of object.

It is used when you need a first-in, first-out access of items. When you add an item in the list, it is called **enqueue** and when you remove an item, it is called **deque**.

BitArray

It represents an array of the **binary representation** using the values 1 and 0.

6

It is used when you need to store the bits but do not know the number of bits in advance. You can access items from the BitArray collection by using an **integer index**, which starts from zero.

=====**→**1 ARRAY LIST

It represents an ordered collection of an object that can be indexed individually. It is basically an alternative to an array. However, unlike array you can add and remove items from a list at a specified position using an **index** and the array resizes itself automatically. It also allows dynamic memory allocation, adding, searching and sorting items in the list.

Methods and Properties of ArrayList Class

The following table lists some of the commonly used **properties** of the **ArrayList** class –

Sr.No. **Property & Description** Capacity 1 Gets or sets the number of elements that the ArrayList can contain. Count 2 Gets the number of elements actually contained in the ArrayList. **IsFixedSize** 3 Gets a value indicating whether the ArrayList has a fixed size. **IsReadOnly** 4 Gets a value indicating whether the ArrayList is read-only. **Item** 5 Gets or sets the element at the specified index.

The following table lists some of the commonly used **methods** of the **ArrayList** class –

```
Sr.No.
                                      Method & Description
       public virtual int Add(object value);
1
       Adds an object to the end of the ArrayList.
       public virtual void AddRange(ICollection c);
2
       Adds the elements of an ICollection to the end of the ArrayList.
       public virtual void Clear();
3
       Removes all elements from the ArrayList.
       public virtual bool Contains(object item);
4
       Determines whether an element is in the ArrayList.
       public virtual ArrayList GetRange(int index, int count);
5
```

```
Returns an ArrayList which represents a subset of the elements in the source ArrayList.
       public virtual int IndexOf(object);
6
       Returns the zero-based index of the first occurrence of a value in the ArrayList or in a
       portion of it.
       public virtual void Insert(int index, object value);
7
       Inserts an element into the ArrayList at the specified index.
       public virtual void InsertRange(int index, ICollection c);
8
       Inserts the elements of a collection into the ArrayList at the specified index.
       public virtual void Remove(object obj);
9
       Removes the first occurrence of a specific object from the ArrayList.
       public virtual void RemoveAt(int index);
10
       Removes the element at the specified index of the ArrayList.
       public virtual void RemoveRange(int index, int count);
11
       Removes a range of elements from the ArrayList.
       public virtual void Reverse();
12
       Reverses the order of the elements in the ArrayList.
       public virtual void SetRange(int index, ICollection c);
13
       Copies the elements of a collection over a range of elements in the ArrayList.
       public virtual void Sort();
14
       Sorts the elements in the ArrayList.
       public virtual void TrimToSize();
15
       Sets the capacity to the actual number of elements in the ArrayList.
```

Example

The following example demonstrates the concept –

```
using System;
using System.Collections;
namespace CollectionApplication {
   class Program {
     static void Main(string[] args) {
```

```
ArrayList al = new ArrayList();
         Console. WriteLine ("Adding some numbers:");
         al.Add(45);
         al.Add(78);
         al.Add(33);
         al.Add(56);
         al.Add(12);
         al.Add(23);
         al.Add(9);
         Console.WriteLine("Capacity: {0} ", al.Capacity);
         Console.WriteLine("Count: {0}", al.Count);
         Console.Write("Content: ");
         foreach (int i in al) {
            Console.Write(i + " ");
         Console.WriteLine();
         Console.Write("Sorted Content: ");
         al.Sort();
         foreach (int i in al) {
            Console.Write(i + " ");
         Console.WriteLine();
         Console.ReadKey();
      }
  }
}
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result –

```
Adding some numbers:
Capacity: 8
Count: 7
Content: 45 78 33 56 12 23 9
Content: 9 12 23 33 45 56 78
```

The SortedList class represents a collection of key-and-value pairs that are sorted by the keys and are accessible by key and by index.

A sorted list is a combination of an array and a hash table. It contains a list of items that can be accessed using a key or an index. If you access items using an index, it is an ArrayList, and if you access items using a key, it is a Hashtable. The collection of items is always sorted by the key value.

Methods and Properties of the SortedList Class

The following table lists some of the commonly used **properties** of the **SortedList** class –

Sr.No. **Property & Description** Capacity 1 Gets or sets the capacity of the SortedList. Count 2 Gets the number of elements contained in the SortedList. **IsFixedSize** 3 Gets a value indicating whether the SortedList has a fixed size. **IsReadOnly** 4 Gets a value indicating whether the SortedList is read-only. Item 5 Gets and sets the value associated with a specific key in the SortedList. Keys 6 Gets the keys in the SortedList. Values 7

The following table lists some of the commonly used **methods** of the **SortedList** class –

Sr.No. **Method & Description** public virtual void Add(object key, object value); 1 Adds an element with the specified key and value into the SortedList. public virtual void Clear(); 2 Removes all elements from the SortedList. public virtual bool ContainsKey(object key); 3 Determines whether the SortedList contains a specific key. public virtual bool ContainsValue(object value); 4 Determines whether the SortedList contains a specific value. public virtual object GetByIndex(int index); 5 Gets the value at the specified index of the SortedList.

public virtual object GetKey(int index);

6

Gets the values in the SortedList.

```
Gets the key at the specified index of the SortedList.
       public virtual IList GetKeyList();
7
       Gets the keys in the SortedList.
       public virtual IList GetValueList();
8
       Gets the values in the SortedList.
       public virtual int IndexOfKey(object key);
9
       Returns the zero-based index of the specified key in the SortedList.
       public virtual int IndexOfValue(object value);
10
       Returns the zero-based index of the first occurrence of the specified value in the
       SortedList.
       public virtual void Remove(object key);
11
       Removes the element with the specified key from the SortedList.
       public virtual void RemoveAt(int index);
12
       Removes the element at the specified index of SortedList.
       public virtual void TrimToSize();
13
       Sets the capacity to the actual number of elements in the SortedList.
```

Example

The following example demonstrates the concept –

```
} else {
        sl.Add("008", "parthiv");
}

// get a collection of the keys.
ICollection key = sl.Keys;

foreach (string k in key) {
        Console.WriteLine(k + ": " + sl[k]);
    }
}
```

It represents a last-in, first out collection of object. It is used when you need a last-in, first-out access of items. When you add an item in the list, it is called pushing the item and when you remove it, it is called popping the item.

Methods and Properties of the Stack Class

The following table lists some commonly used **properties** of the **Stack** class –

Sr.No.

Property & Description

Count

1

Gets the number of elements contained in the Stack.

The following table lists some of the commonly used **methods** of the **Stack** class –

```
Sr.No.
                         Method & Description
       public virtual void Clear();
1
       Removes all elements from the Stack.
       public virtual bool Contains(object obj);
2
       Determines whether an element is in the Stack.
       public virtual object Peek();
3
       Returns the object at the top of the Stack without removing it.
       public virtual object Pop();
4
       Removes and returns the object at the top of the Stack.
       public virtual void Push(object obj);
5
```

Inserts an object at the top of the Stack.

Copies the Stack to a new array.

Example

The following example demonstrates use of Stack –

```
using System;
using System.Collections;
namespace CollectionsApplication {
   class Program {
      static void Main(string[] args) {
         Stack st = new Stack();
         st.Push('A');
         st.Push('M');
         st.Push('G');
         st.Push('W');
         Console.WriteLine("Current stack: ");
         foreach (char c in st) {
            Console.Write(c + " ");
         Console.WriteLine();
         st.Push('V');
         st.Push('H');
         Console.WriteLine("The next poppable value in stack: {0}",
st.Peek());
         Console.WriteLine("Current stack: ");
         foreach (char c in st) {
            Console.Write(c + " ");
         Console.WriteLine();
         Console.WriteLine("Removing values ");
         st.Pop();
         st.Pop();
         st.Pop();
         Console.WriteLine("Current stack: ");
         foreach (char c in st) {
            Console.Write(c + " ");
      }
  }
```

It represents a first-in, first out collection of object. It is used when you need a first-in, first-out access of items. When you add an item in the list, it is called **enqueue**, and when you remove an item, it is called **deque**.

Methods and Properties of the Queue Class

The following table lists some of the commonly used **properties** of the **Queue** class –

Sr.No.

Property & Description

Count

1

Gets the number of elements contained in the Queue.

The following table lists some of the commonly used **methods** of the **Queue** class –

```
Sr.No.
                          Method & Description
       public virtual void Clear();
1
       Removes all elements from the Oueue.
       public virtual bool Contains(object obj);
2
       Determines whether an element is in the Queue.
       public virtual object Dequeue();
3
       Removes and returns the object at the beginning of the Queue.
       public virtual void Enqueue(object obj);
4
       Adds an object to the end of the Queue.
       public virtual object[] ToArray();
5
       Copies the Queue to a new array.
       public virtual void TrimToSize();
6
```

Sets the capacity to the actual number of elements in the Queue.

Example

The following example demonstrates use of Stack –

```
using System;
using System.Collections;
namespace CollectionsApplication {
```

```
class Program {
      static void Main(string[] args) {
         Queue q = new Queue();
         q.Enqueue('A');
         q.Enqueue('M');
         q.Enqueue('G');
         q.Enqueue('W');
         Console.WriteLine("Current queue: ");
         foreach (char c in q) Console.Write(c + " ");
         Console.WriteLine();
         q.Enqueue('V');
         q.Enqueue('H');
         Console.WriteLine("Current queue: ");
         foreach (char c in q) Console.Write(c + " ");
         Console.WriteLine();
         Console.WriteLine("Removing some values ");
         char ch = (char)q.Dequeue();
         Console.WriteLine("The removed value: {0}", ch);
         ch = (char)q.Dequeue();
         Console.WriteLine("The removed value: {0}", ch);
        Console.ReadKey();
     }
  }
}
```