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1  // Lecture 91: Initialiser Lists
  • (std::initializer_list<>)
2  // This is not to be confused with member Initialiser
  • lists.
3  // In the previous videos, we discussed uniform
  • initialisation.
4  // Syntax introduced in C++11.
5  // it provides a unified syntax for initialising
  • scalar / array / user defined types and objects.
6  int x {0};
7  float y { 3.1f};
8  int arr[5] {3,1,2,3,2};
9  std::string s {"Hello World!"};
10
11 // Uniform initialisation introduced a new class
  • called initialiser list, and it is used to store an
  • array of objects.
12 #include <initializer_list>
13 // then create an instance of this class.
14 // initializer list is a class template, so you need
  • to specify the type of elements that its going to
  • store.
15
16 int main(){
17     std::initializer_list<int> data = {1,2,3,4};
18     // If we use automatic type inference, then even
  • in that case this brace list of elements will
  • be inferred as an initializer list.
19     auto values = {1,2,3,4}; // type of values is an
  • initializer_list<int>
20 }
21 /*
22 What is the purpose of initializer list?
23 - They are commonly used with container classes.
  • Container classes are those classes that can hold
  • objects of other classes.
24 - We can understand this by creating our own
  • container class, we'll create a class called as Bag.
25 // This class will act like an array, and will be
  • used to hold objects of other classes.
26 */
27 class Bag {

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28     int arr[10];
29     int m_size{};
30 public:
31     void Add(int val){if (m_size<10) arr[m_size++] =
    •     value;}
32     void Remove(){--m_size;}
33     int operator[] (int index){return arr[index];}
34     int GetSize()const {return m_size;}
35 }
36 int main()
37 {
38     Bag b;
39     b.Add(3);
40     b.Add(4);
41     b.Add(5);
42     for (int i = 0; i < b.GetSize(); i++)
43         std::cout << b[i] << std::endl;
44 }
45 // what if we want to initialise the bag with some
    •     predefined values without using Add().
46 // We could do something like this:
47 int main (){
48     Bag b {3,1,0}; // this will not work, but we know
    •     that this is a brace list of elements and the
    •     compiler will automatically infer this as an
    •     initialiser_list.
49     // So, to make this initialisation work, we'll
    •     add a constructor in Bag that accepts an
    •     initialiser list as an argument.
50 }
51
52 class Bag {
53     int arr[10];
54     int m_size{};
55 public:
56     Bag (std::initializer_list<int> &values)
57     {
58         // we can access the elements inside the
    •     initialiser list using iterators. Iterators
    •     are provided as classes in C++, and provide
    •     some overloaded operators that help us
    •     access the elements inside the container.

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59         // Let's initialise the Bag with the values
        •         inside the initialiser_list.
60         // For that, we'll have to use the iterators.
61         //So first of all, we'll create the iterator
        •         to the first element, and we'll do that by
        •         calling the begin() function of the
        •         initialiser list.
62         auto it = values.begin();
63         // and then we'll use the while loop, so the
        •         condition here will be if the beginning
        •         iterator is not equal to the end iterator
        •         on values,
64         while (it != values.end()){
65             // To access the values from the
        •         iterator, we can use the asterisk
        •         operator.
66             // Simply use the Add function here
67             // Imagine that your initialiser list is
        •         like an array, and the iterator is just
        •         a pointer to the array.
68             Add(*it);
69             // To shift the position of the iterator,
        •         we increment it, like this:
70             ++it;
71         }
72     }
73     ... Other methods
74 }
75 int main (){
76     Bag b {3,1,0}; // this works now!
77 }
78 // Write a random function called print() accepts an
        •         initialiser list of integers.
79 void Print(std::initializer_list<int> values)
80 {
81     for (auto it = values.begin(); it !=
        •         values.end(); ++it){
82         std::cout << *it << std::endl;
83     }
84 }
85 // Remember that a brace list of elements
        •         automatically creates an initialiser list object.

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86  int main(){
87      Print({8,3,2,3,4,1,3}); // this works.
88  }
89
90  // Initialiser lists can also be used with a range
91  •   based for loop.
92  void Print(std::initializer_list<int> values){
93      for (auto &v : values){
94          std::cout << v << std::endl;
95      }
96  }
97  int main(){
98      Print({8,3,2,3,4,1,3}); // this works.
99  }
100
101  // We could have even used the curly braces within
102  •   the for loop.
103  int main(){
104      for (auto& v: {8,3,2,3,4,1,3}){
105          std::cout << v << std::endl;
106      }
107  }
```