

# Polymorphism

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Java

Before Polymorphism,  
let's conquer **Compile vs Run**.

First: What does it mean to compile?

Second: What does it mean to run?

# Compile vs Run

- Compiling
  - The **process of parsing a program written** and checking syntax, semantics, linking libraries, and creating a binary executable (.class file) program as an output.
- Running
  - Getting some binary executable and **executing it as a new process!**

# Errors make it easy to make sense of

- Compile time error example
  - Syntax Error
  - Logic Error
  - Object not found
- Runtime error example
  - Array out of Bounds
  - Null Pointer Exception
- These errors happen when the program is parsing through to see if it actually can run!
- These errors happen after compiling. Logic and syntax work but until ran, the computer doesn't know it reaches something it can't find.

Now we can discuss  
**Polymorphism**

# What is Polymorphism?

- A reference variable is **polymorphic** when it can refer to objects from different classes at different points in the code.
  - A reference variable can store a reference to its declared class or to any subclass of its declared class
- A method is considered **polymorphic** when it is overridden in at least one subclass.
- **Polymorphism** is the act of executing an overridden non-static method from the correct class at **runtime** based on the actual object type.



In short:

Polymorphism defines the behavior of how variables act when instantiated as another class object of a subclass.

```
Example:  Role obj = new Warrior();  
           obj.charge();
```

Is the Role or Warrior's **charge()** method called?

# Let's focus on **overriding methods** first!

```
public class Dog{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public Dog() {...}
    public Dog(String n, int a){...}

    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("Bark!");
    }
}
```

Previously we have the  
**Dog** and **Greyhound** classes.

We overrode the **bark** method from Dog

```
public class Greyhound extends Dog{
    private String color;

    public Greyhound () {...}
    public Greyhound (String n, int a, String c){...}

    public boolean isFast(){
        return true;
    }
    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("LOUD BARK!");
    }
}
```

# Methods with Polymorphism

```
public class Dog{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public Dog() {...}
    public Dog(String n, int a){...}

    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("Bark!");
    }
}
```

```
Greyhound rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");
rapid.bark();
```

Given the code above, this compiles and runs!

```
public class Greyhound extends Dog{
    private String color;

    public Greyhound () {...}
    public Greyhound (String n, int a, String c){...}

    public boolean isFast(){
        return true;
    }
    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("LOUD BARK!");
    }
}
```

These are the following steps that happen when `rapid.bark()` is compiling:

1. Check what class the `rapid` object is.
  - a. Greyhound is the reference **variable** type
2. Check if that class has a `bark()` method.
  - a. If yes, compile it.
  - b. If not, check if there's an inherited `bark()`.

# Methods with Polymorphism

```
public class Dog{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public Dog() {...}
    public Dog(String n, int a){...}

    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("Bark!");
    }
}
```

```
Dog rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");
rapid.bark();
```

**OKAY**, same code BUT different reference variable!

```
public class Greyhound extends Dog{
    private String color;

    public Greyhound () {...}
    public Greyhound (String n, int a, String c){...}

    public boolean isFast(){
        return true;
    }
    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("LOUD BARK!");
    }
}
```

These are the following steps that happen when `rapid.bark()` is compiling:

1. Check what class the `rapid` object is.
  - a. The reference variable a **Dog!**
2. Check if that class has a `bark()` method.
  - a. If yes, compile it.
  - b. If not, check if there's an inherited `bark()`.

**This still works, since Dog has bark().**

# Methods with Polymorphism

```
public class Dog{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public Dog() {...}
    public Dog(String n, int a){...}

    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("Bark!");
    }
}
```

```
Dog rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");
rapid.bark();
```

Though this compiles because **Dog** has a **bark()** method.

During **runtime**, the Greyhound **bark()** is referenced.

```
public class Greyhound extends Dog{
    private String color;

    public Greyhound () {...}
    public Greyhound (String n, int a, String c){...}

    public boolean isFast(){
        return true;
    }
    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("LOUD BARK!");
    }
}
```

# Methods with Polymorphism

```
public class Dog{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public Dog() {...}
    public Dog(String n, int a){...}

    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("Bark!");
    }
}
```

```
Dog rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");
rapid.isFast();
```

Now instead of **bark**, what if we try **isFast()**?

```
public class Greyhound extends Dog{
    private String color;

    public Greyhound () {...}
    public Greyhound (String n, int a, String c){...}

    public boolean isFast(){
        return true;
    }
    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("LOUD BARK!");
    }
}
```

These are the following steps that happen when `rapid.bark()` is compiling:

1. Check what class the `rapid` object is.
  - a. Variable is still a **Dog!**
2. Check if that class has a **isFast()** method.
  - a. If yes, compile it.
  - b. If not, check if there's an inherited **bark()**.

**This doesn't compile, since Dog doesn't have isFast()**

# Let's try an example question:

```
public class Parent{
    public void display1(){
        System.out.print("P");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("W");
    }
}

public class Child extends Parent{
    public void display1(){
        super.display1();
        System.out.print("C");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("X");
    }
    public void display3(){
        System.out.print("Y");
    }
}
```

# What's the output?

```
public class Parent{
    public void display1(){
        System.out.print("P");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("W");
    }
}

public class Child extends Parent{
    public void display1(){
        super.display1();
        System.out.print("C");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("X");
    }
    public void display3(){
        System.out.print("Y");
    }
}
```

In a different class:

```
Parent obj = new Child();
obj.display1();
obj.display2();
```

What is displayed as a result of executing the above segment of code?

- (A) PW
- (B) PCW
- (C) CX
- (D) PCX
- (E) CW



# Answer

```
public class Parent{
    public void display1(){
        System.out.print("P");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("W");
    }
}

public class Child extends Parent{
    public void display1(){
        super.display1();
        System.out.print("C");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("X");
    }
    public void display3(){
        System.out.print("Y");
    }
}
```

In a different class:

```
Parent obj = new Child();
obj.display1();
obj.display2();
```

What is displayed as a result of executing the above segment of code?

- (A) PW
- (B) PCW
- (C) CX
- (D) PCX
- (E) CW

# Answer

```
public class Parent{
    public void display1(){
        System.out.print("P");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("W");
    }
}

public class Child extends Parent{
    public void display1(){
        super.display1();
        System.out.print("C");
    }
    public void display2(){
        System.out.print("X");
    }
    public void display3(){
        System.out.print("Y");
    }
}
```

In a different class:

```
Parent obj = new Child();
obj.display1();
obj.display2();
```

What is displayed as a result of executing the above segment of code?

- (A) PW
- (B) PCW
- (C) CX
- (D) PCX
- (E) CW

1. This compiles because Parent has a `display1()` and `display2()` method part of its class.
2. This runs Child's `display1()` and `display2()` because `obj` is instantiated as a Child

So back to our `bark()` example

How do we call `isFast()`  
from Greyhound on a Dog?

```
Dog rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");  
rapid.isFast();
```

# Superclass Polymorphism call

```
public class Dog{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public Dog() {...}
    public Dog(String n, int a){...}

    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("Bark!");
    }
}
```

```
Dog rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");
rapid.isFast();
```

This runs the Greyhound's `isFast()`.

But it doesn't compile

```
public class Greyhound extends Dog{
    private String color;

    public Greyhound () {...}
    public Greyhound (String n, int a, String c){...}

    public boolean isFast(){
        return true;
    }
    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("LOUD BARK!");
    }
}
```

# Superclass Polymorphism call

```
public class Dog{
    private String name;
    private int age;

    public Dog() {...}
    public Dog(String n, int a){...}

    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("Bark!");
    }
}
```

```
Dog rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");
((Greyhound) rapid).isFast();
```

This compiles and runs the Greyhound's  
**isFast()**.

```
public class Greyhound extends Dog{
    private String color;

    public Greyhound () {...}
    public Greyhound (String n, int a, String c){...}

    public boolean isFast(){
        return true;
    }
    public void bark(){
        System.out.println("LOUD BARK!");
    }
}
```

# Superclass Polymorphism call

This is called **object casting**,  
where you change the object used at runtime.

Imagine it like, multiplying by some constant value.

```
Dog rapid = new Greyhound("Rapid", 7, "grey");  
( (Greyhound) rapid ).isFast();
```

Polymorphism like this works for **methods**  
**NOT** for variables.

The next part is just some spooky behaviors you need to be careful about  
when working with inheritance.

# We make a Dog with a Corgi instantiated

```
Dog a = new Corgi();  
System.out.println(a.name);
```

Now given the below classes, what does the code above do?

```
public class Corgi extends Dog{  
    String breed;  
    String name;  
  
    public Corgi() {  
        breed = "Corgi";  
        name = "Joey";  
    }  
}
```

```
public class Dog{  
    String name;  
  
    public Dog(){  
        name = "Doggo";  
    }  
  
    public void bark(){  
        System.out.println("Bark!");  
    }  
}
```



# Polymorphism behaviors

```
Dog a = new Corgi();  
System.out.println(a.name);
```

The code above, outputs **“Doggo”**.  
This is because the instance variable is Dog still.

This isn't the behavior expected.  
This is an exception in Java.

**Remember polymorphism  
doesn't work on Variables**

```
public class Dog{  
    String name;  
  
    public Dog(){  
        name = "Doggo";  
    }  
  
    public void bark(){  
        System.out.println("Bark!");  
    }  
}
```

And now we know why  
**Accessor/Mutator** methods are amazing!

# Lab: Polymorphism

1. Create an array of 4 Performers
2. Construct with any value
  - a. 1 Performer
  - b. 1 Musician
  - c. 1 Apprentice
  - d. 1 Actor
3. Call the following methods on the following objects
  - a. Performer - perform() and practice()
  - b. Musician - perform() and Performer's practice()
  - c. Apprentice - practiceAtUniversity(), Musician's playInstrument()
  - d. Actor - monologue() and Performer's perform()