

7.3. Programming with arrays and Classes

Wrapper Classes for Arrays

- Arrays can be made into objects by creating a wrapper class
 - » similar to wrapper classes for primitive types
- In the wrapper class:
 - » make an array **an instance variable**
 - » define constructors
 - » define **accessor methods** to read and write element values and parameters
- an example of creating a wrapper class for an array of objects of type `OneWayNoRepeatsList`
 - » the wrapper class defines two constructors plus the following methods:
`addItem, full, empty, entryAt, atLastEntry, onList, maximumNumberOfEntries, numberOfEntries, and eraseList`



Listing 7.8 Using the Class OneWayNoRepeatsList - ListDemo.java

```
import java.util.Scanner;

public class ListDemo
{
    public static final int MAX_SIZE = 3; //Assumed > 0

    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        OneWayNoRepeatsList toDoList =
            new OneWayNoRepeatsList(MAX_SIZE);

        System.out.println("Enter items for the list, when prompted.");
        boolean moreEntries = true;
        String next = null;
        Scanner keyboard = new Scanner(System.in);
```



```
while (moreEntries && !toDoList.isFull())
{
    System.out.println("Enter an item:");
    next = keyboard.nextLine( );
    toDoList.addItem(next);
    if (toDoList.isFull( ))
    {
        System.out.println("List is now full.");
    }
    else
    {
        System.out.print("More items for the list? ");
        String ans = keyboard.nextLine( );
        if (ans.trim().equalsIgnoreCase("no"))
            moreEntries = false; //User says no more
    }
}
System.out.println("The list contains:");
int position = toDoList.START_POSITION;
next = toDoList.getEntryAt(position);
while (next != null) //null indicates end of list
{
    System.out.println(next);
    position++;
    next = toDoList.getEntryAt(position);
}
}
```



C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

Enter items for the list, when prompted.

Enter an item:

aaa

More items for the list? yes

Enter an item:

bbb

More items for the list? yes

Enter an item:

aaa

More items for the list? yes

Enter an item:

ccc

List is now full.

The list contains:

aaa

bbb

ccc

계속하려면 아무 키나 누르십시오 . . .



Listing 7.9 . An Array Wrapped in a Class - OneWayNoRepeatsList.java

```
// Listing 7.9 . An Array Wrapped in a Class
public class OneWayNoRepeatsList
{
    public static int START_POSITION = 1;
    public static int DEFAULT_SIZE = 50;

    private int countOfEntries; //can be less than entry.length.
    private String[] entry; // make an array an instance variable

    // constructor
    public OneWayNoRepeatsList(int maximumNumberOfEntries)
    {
        entry = new String[maximumNumberOfEntries];
        countOfEntries = 0;
    }
    // constructor
    public OneWayNoRepeatsList( )
    {
        entry = new String[DEFAULT_SIZE];
        countOfEntries = 0;
    }
}
```



```

public boolean full( )
{
    return (countOfEntries == entry.length);
}
public boolean empty( )
{
    //.....
}
public void addItem(String item)
{
    //.....
}
public String getEntryAt(int position)
{
    if ((1 <= position) && (position <= countOfEntries))
        return entry[position - 1];
    else
        return null;
}
public boolean atLastEntry(int position)
{
    //.....
}
public boolean onList(String item)
{
    //.....
}

public int maximumNumberOfEntries( )
{
    //.....
}
public int getNumberOfEntries( )
{
    //.....
}
public void eraseList( )
{
    //.....
}
}

```

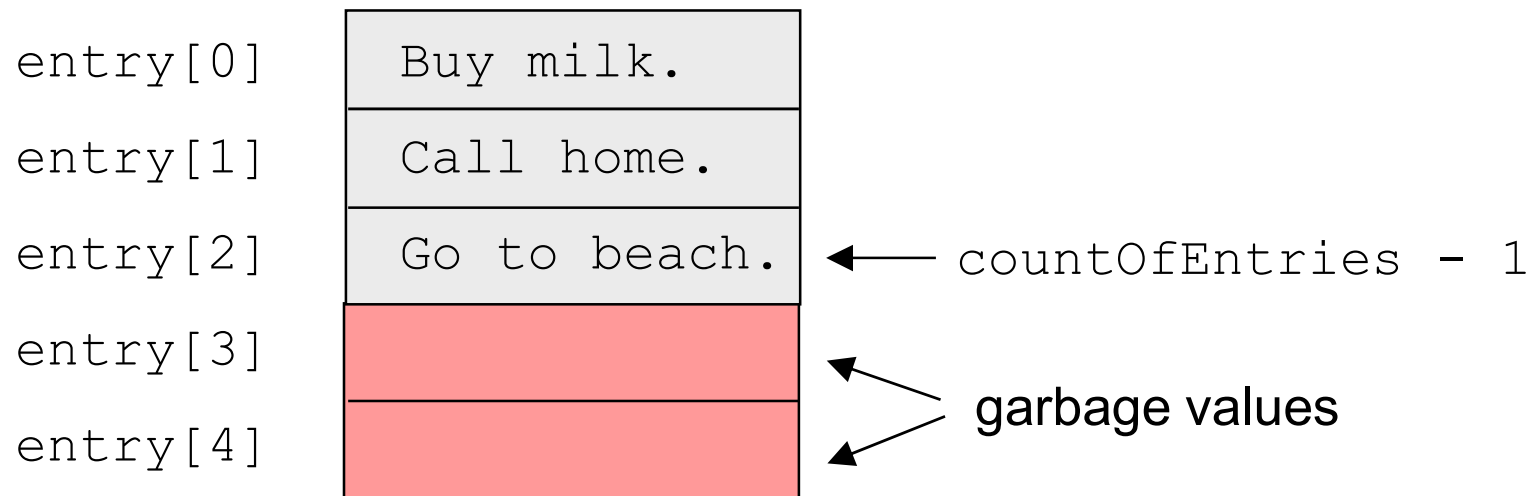


Partially Filled Arrays

- Sometimes only **part of an array** has been filled with data
- Array elements always contain something, whether you have written to them or not
 - » elements which have not been written to contain unknown (garbage) data so you should avoid reading them
- There is no automatic mechanism to detect how many elements have been filled - *you*, the programmer need to keep track!
- An example: the instance variable `countOfEntries` (in the class `OneWayNoRepeatsList`) is incremented every time `addItem` is called (see the text)



Figure 7.4 a Partially Filled Array



`countOfEntries` has a value of 3.
`entry.length` has a value of 5.

Searching an Array

- There are many techniques for searching an array for a particular value
- **Sequential search:**
 - » start at the beginning of the array and proceed in sequence until either the value is found or the end of the array is reached*
 - if the array is only partially filled, the search **stops when the last meaningful value has been checked**
 - » it is not the most efficient way
 - » but it works and is easy to program

* Or, just as easy, start at the end and work backwards toward the beginning

Example: Sequential Search of an Array

The `onList` method of `OneWayNoRepeatsList` sequentially searches the array `entry` to see if the parameter `item` is in the array

```
public boolean onList(String item)
{
    boolean found = false;
    int i = 0;
    while ((! found) && (i < countOfEntries))
    {
        if (item.equals(entry[i]))
            found = true;
        else
            i++;
    }

    return found;
}
```



Gotcha: Returning an Array Instance Variable

- Access methods that return references to array instance variables cause **problems for information hiding**.

Example:

```
public String[] getEntryArray()
{
    return entry;
}
```

Even though `entries` is declared private, a method outside the class can get full access to it by using `getEntryArray`.

- In most cases this type of method is not necessary anyhow.
- If it is necessary, make the method return **a copy of the array** instead of returning a reference to the actual array.



```
public String[] getEntryArray()
{
    return entry;
}
```

```
oneWayNoRepeatsList myList = new OneWayNoRepeatsList();
myList.entry[2] = "Party tonight";

String[] a = myList.getEntryArray();

a[2] = "Party tomorrow";
```

```
public String[] getEntryArray()
{
    String[] temp = new String[ ];
    int I;
    for (I=0; I<countOfEntries;I++)
        [ ];
    return temp;
}
```



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