Discussion 08 – Using Arrays or Collections

It seems as though the use of Arrays vs Collections ultimately depends on the tasks you’re trying to accomplish. Arrays are probably best when working with a known size of primitive types because they’re easy to initialize, and functional for working with a fixed size of data elements. While arrays can also store objects, Collections are usually a better option when working with these types. Collections do not have a fixed size, so that makes it convenient if you don’t know how many elements you want to store. Since arrays can only store one data type, collections are more convenient when you want to store different types of elements.

Generics:

* Enable Types (Classes & Interfaces) to be parameters when defining Classes, Interfaces, or Methods
* Marking a List as being restricted to contain a particular data type

Arrays:

* Fixed length
* Support 🡪 Primitives, Objects

ArrayList:

* Variable length
* Support 🡪 Objects, Generics