

Language Basics – User Defined Types



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Building

You can make the
compiler a promise

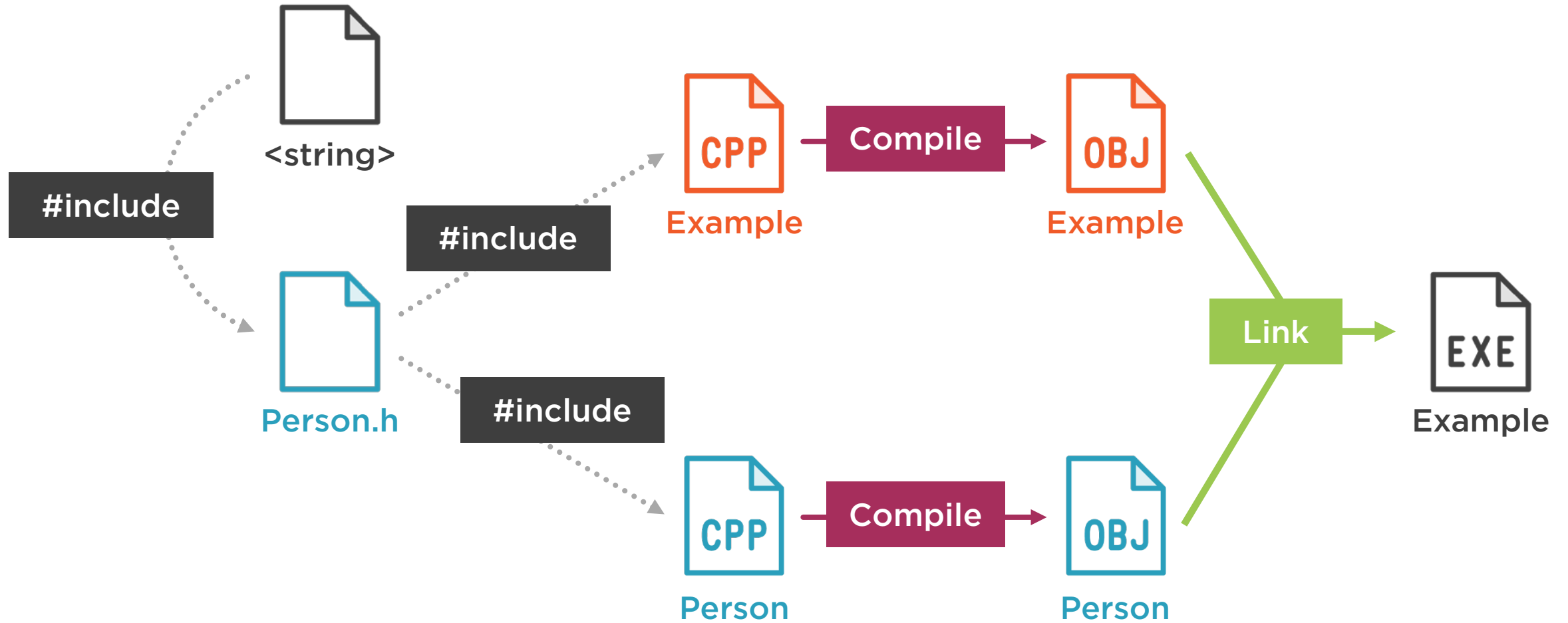
Linker will ensure it is kept

`#include` only a convenience

Put each class in its own file



Building



Classes and Objects

`class` keyword

`private` and `public` sections

Declare like
fundamental types

Access members with `.`



```
class Person
{
private:
    std::string firstname;
    std::string lastname;
    int arbitrarynumber;

public:
    std::string getName();
};
```

- ◀ The keyword `class` introduces the declaration
- ◀ Brace brackets surround the contents
- ◀ Member variables are generally private
- ◀ Functions are generally public
- ◀ Don't have to code them, just declare them
- ◀ Don't forget the semi-colon



```
#include "Person.h"
```

```
std::string Person::getName()  
{  
    return firstname + " " +  
    lastname;  
}
```

- ◀ Includes the same header as consuming code uses
- ◀ Use fully qualified name
- ◀ Body surrounded by braces
- ◀ Access member variables with no special syntax



Objects

Instance of a class

Has own copy of
member variables

Member functions operate
on member variables
(and arguments)

Initialized with a constructor



```
class Person
{
    // . . .
    Person(std::string first,
           std::string last,
           int arbitrary);
    // . . .
};
```

- ◀ **Constructors have the same name as the class**
- ◀ **They take arguments, which have a type and a name**
- ◀ **They do not return a value**




```
Person::Person(std::string first,  
               std::string last,  
               int arbitrary)
```

```
:
```

```
    firstname(first),  
    lastname(last),  
    arbitrarynumber(arbitrary)
```

```
{
```

```
}
```

- ◀ Use fully qualified name
- ◀ No return type
- ◀ This colon introduces initializers
- ◀ Braces around the body
- ◀ Empty body is quite normal



Scope



Have a lifetime

Constructor

Scope

Destructor



Resource Acquisition Is Initialization

Acquire in constructor

Release in destructor



struct

“plain old data”

member functions,
constructor,
destructor

default access is
public



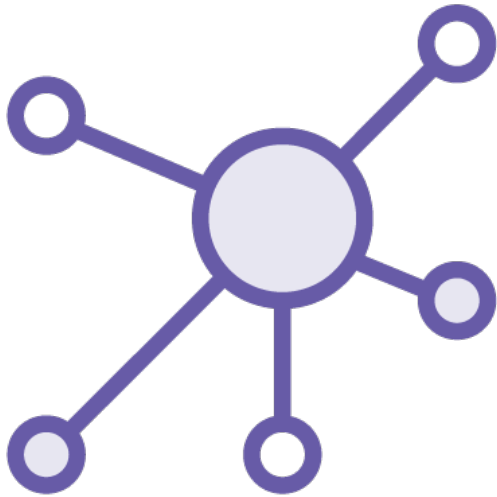
Namespaces

**Prevent name
collisions**

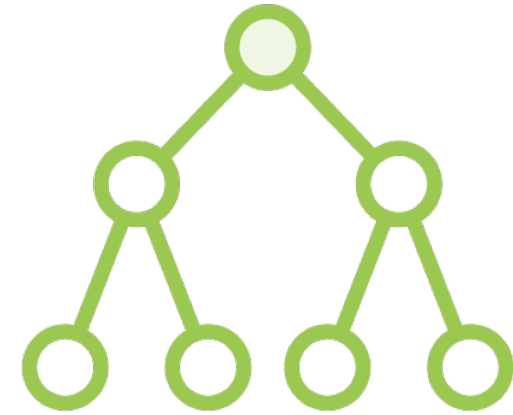
**Separate from class
name with ::**



Inheritance



Key to OO Design



Derived classes

Add or override



```
class Tweeter :  
    public Person  
{  
  
};
```

- ◀ Same class keyword
- ◀ Colon indicates inheritance
- ◀ List only additional member variables and functions



```
Tweeter::Tweeter(  
    std::string first,  
    std::string last,  
    int arbitrary,  
    std::string handle)  
  
:  
    Person(first, last,  
            arbitrary),  
    twitterhandle(handle)  
  
{  
  
}
```

◀ Pass some parameters to the base class in the initialization



Enum

Give names to a set of constants

Names must be unique




```
enum Status
{
    Pending,
    Approved,
    Cancelled
};
```

- ◀ Keyword enum
- ◀ Braces surround the entries
- ◀ Comma after each one
- ◀ No comma after the last
- ◀ Don't forget the semi-colon



Scoped Enum

**Allows underlying
type other than int**

**Names don't have
to be unique**

**Use fully
qualified names**



```
enum class FileError
{
    notfound,
    ok
};

enum class NetworkError
{
    disconnected,
    ok
};
```

- ◀ Keyword enum class
- ◀ Braces surround the entries
- ◀ Comma after each one
- ◀ Don't forget the semi-colon
- ◀ Two "ok"s is ok



```
Status s = Pending;  
s = Approved;
```

```
FileError fe =  
    FileError::notfound;
```

```
fe = FileError::ok;
```

```
NetworkError ne =  
    NetworkError::disconnected;
```

```
ne = NetworkError::ok;
```

◀ Declare as though the enum was a type

◀ For scoped enums, fully qualify the enum entry



PreProcessor

Lines start #

Control what
is compiled

Use with care



Summary



Declare instances of objects or fundamental types on the stack

When the instance goes out of scope, the object is cleaned up

User defined types and fundamental types are equally real

Scoped enums make it simple to use named values instead of arbitrary constants

