

There are several classes in the *Thesaurus* application that are almost duplicates of classes in the *Dictionary* application, some differing only by the *types* of the arguments passed to the methods of each class. The *DictionaryEditor* and *ThesaurusEditor* classes are a prominent example of this.

A *generic* class is a class that uses parameterized types. The *types* used by methods and variables in a generic class can themselves be made variable, their ultimate value being defined by the parameters passed to the class. Using generic classes would have allowed us to, for example, create a single *Editor<T1, T2...>* class, and then pass in types specific to a *Dictionary* or a *Thesaurus*, depending on our use case. This would save us time, encourage code reuse, and minimize duplication of code.