

OO-related Java keywords

class

interface

public/private/protected

extends

implements

abstract

static

final

new

this

super

Objects, classes, inheritance

Characteristics of objects: **state**, **behaviour**

An object is an **instance** of a general **class** of objects

In Java, a class contains **fields** (state) and **methods** (behaviour)

Static fields/methods are associated with the class itself, not with an instance

Classes can **inherit** state and behaviour from other classes

Subclass is a **specialised version** of the superclass

In Java, a class can have **exactly one** superclass

If superclass isn't specified, then it inherits from `Object`

Subclasses can **override** superclass methods to provide specialised behaviour

Don't forget **access modifiers** (`public`/`protected`/ (default) /`private`)

Constructors, methods

Constructor: used to create a new instance of a class (via **new** keyword)

Constructors are **not** inherited – call super-class constructor with **super** keyword

Method **overriding**: redefining method behaviour in a subclass

Method **overloading**: defining multiple methods with the same name but different signatures

Abstract classes/methods, interfaces

Abstract classes have “holes” – abstract methods that **must** be overridden

Still have constructors, fields, normal methods, static fields/methods, etc

Final classes cannot be subclassed (e.g., for security), and final methods cannot be overridden

Final fields, parameters, variables cannot have value changed after it is set

Static final generally indicates class-level constants (e.g., `Long.MAX_VALUE`)

Interfaces represent class relationships **outside main inheritance hierarchy**

Classes **implement** interfaces – can implement any number of them (including zero)

All methods implicitly **public abstract**; all fields **public static final**

Support multiple inheritance of **type** (not of state or of implementation)