

Classes and Objects

x) Data encapsulation:

It is the process of combining both data members/attributes and the functions that operate on the data into a single unit.

x) Class: A description of a number of similar objects.

x) Data hiding:

Restricting data ~~access~~ access to the data to keep it safe from accidental alteration. It is done using access specifiers.

x) Objects: Objects are the instances of class.

x) Access Specifier:

Access specifiers/modifiers define how members of a class can be accessed.

In C++, there are 3 types of access specifiers.

- i) public: members are accessible from outside the class.
- ii) private: members are accessible from inside the class only.
- iii) protected: members are inaccessible outside class but can be accessed by derived class/sub-class.

x) Syntax:

```
class class-name {
    access specifier:
        data-members;
        functions;
    access specifier:
        data-members;
        functions;
};
```

Eg: class point {
private:
 double x;
 double y;
public:
 void set(int x, int y);
 double distance();
};

x) Declaring objects:

```
class-name object-name;
```

Eg: point p1;

x) Accessing objects:

```
object-name.membername
```

Eg: p1.x

→ we may also have to use getter and setter.

X) C++ separate header and Implementation files

In coding, we divide our code into many files to ~~prevent~~ provide code clarity along with code reusability, reducing compilation time and implementation hiding.

Header file: It contains class declarations in separate file with .h extension

Source file / Implementation file: It contains class function definitions in separate file with .cpp extension

Client code: It contains the main() function in file with .cpp extension.

X) Abstraction:

Abstraction is the process of providing only essential information to outside world by hiding background details.

This process separates our code into interface and implementation.

Interface is independent component not changed by implementation component.

Eg: Interface can be header file with class declarations and implementation can be source files containing class function definitions.

X) UML class diagram:

A class diagram gives an overview of a software application by presenting the classes and relations between them.

Point	
- x	→ class name
- y	→ Attribute
+ setpoints(double x, y:double)	→ Member functions
+ distance(another point: Point)	

- : private

+ : public

: protected

Here -, +, # are access specifier

X) Private member function:

A private member function cannot be accessed from outside the class.

There is no difference while defining a private member function.

A private member function can be called from another member function of the same class but can't be called from outside the class.

x) const member functions:

A const member function prevents guarantees it will not modify the object or call any non-const member functions. It contains const in their declaration.

Syntax: `datatype function_name(arguments) const;`

x) Static data members / member functions

Static data members and static member functions are shared by all objects of the class.

Static members belong to the class itself and exist if no ~~class~~ objects have been instantiated.

Static members ~~variat~~ have lifetime throughout the program.

→ Accessing static members:
`class-name :: static-member-variable`

Static member function don't have 'this' pointer.