

Key Terms and Concepts - Lesson 4

CIS163AA – Java Programming – Level 1

Term	Definition
Ambiguous	An ambiguous situation is one in which the compiler cannot determine which method to use.
Anonymous classes	Anonymous classes are nested, local classes that have no identifier.
Block	A block is the code between a pair of curly braces.
Class methods	Class methods are static methods that do not have a this reference (because they have no object associated with them).
Class variables	Class variables are static variables that are shared by every instantiation of a class.
Composition	Composition describes the relationship between classes when an object of one class is a data field within another class.
Fundamental classes	The fundamental classes are basic classes contained in the <code>java.lang</code> package that are automatically imported into every program you write.
Goes out of scope	A variable ceases to exist, or goes out of scope , at the end of the block in which it is declared.
Has-a relationship	A has-a relationship is a relationship based on composition.
Inside blockinner block	An inside block , or inner block , is contained within another block.
Java.1ang	The java.lang package is implicitly imported into every lava program.
Library of classes	A library of classes is a folder that provides a convenient grouping for classes.
Local classes	Local classes are a type of nested class that are local to a block of code.
Nan	NaN is a three-letter abbreviation for "Not a Number."
Nested classes	Nested classes are classes contained in other classes.
Nested comes into	An inside block is nested within an outside block. A variable comes into existence, or comes into
Nonstatic member classeinner classes	Nonstatic member classes, also known as inner classes, are nested classes that require an instance.

Term	Definition
Optional classes	The optional classes reside in packages that must be explicitly imported into your programs.
Outside blockouter block	An outside block , or outer block , contains another block.
Overloading	Overloading involves using one term to indicate diverse meanings, or writing multiple methods with the same name but with different arguments.
Overrides	A variable overrides another with the same name when it takes precedence over the variable.
Package	A package is a library of classes.
Redeclare a variable	To redeclare a variable is to attempt to declare it twice - an illegal action.
Reference this reference	A reference is an object's memory address. The this reference is a reference to an object that is passed to any object's nonstatic method class method.
Scope	scope, when you declare it.
Top-level class	The top-level class is the containing class in nested classes.
Wildcard symbol	A wildcard symbol is an asterisk - a symbol used to indicate that it can be replaced by any set of characters. In a Java import statement, you use a wildcard symbol to represent all the classes in a package.

Note: Please see key terms in the textbooks for examples of some of the terms.