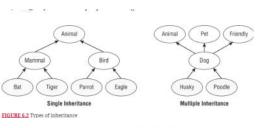
### Chapter6 Class Design

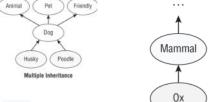
Monday, October 13, 2025 11:27 AM



```
public class Mammal {}
public final class Rhinoceros extends Mammal {}
public class Clara extends Rhinoceros {} // DOES NOT COMPILE
```

On the exam, pay attention to any class marked final. If you see another class extending it, you know immediately the code does not compile.





Trying to declare a top-level class with protected or private class will lead to a compiler error, though.

// ClownFish.java
protected class ClownFish{} // DOES NOT COMPILE
// BlueTang.java

Does that mean a class can never be declared protected or private? Not exactly. In Chapter 2, we present nested types and show that when you define a class inside another, it can use any access modifier.

All objects inherit java.lang.Object

java.lang.Object

### !!!Attention

private class BlueTang {} // DOES NOT COMPILE

Like method parameters, constructor parameters can be any valid class, array, or primitive type, including generics, but may not include war. For example, the following like the control of the control

```
public class Bonobo {
  public Bonobo(var food) { // DOES NOT COMPILE
  }
}
```

```
public Hamster(int weight) { // Second constructor
    this(weight, "brown");
}
```

## Method Overloading Rules in Java

To overload a method, you must change:

- · The number of parameters, or
- The types of parameters, or
- The order of parameters (if types are different)
- Return type alone is NOT enough to overload a method.

Calling this() has one special rule you need to know. If you choose to call it, the this() call must be the first statement in the constructor. The side effect of this is that there can be only one call to this() in any constructor.

```
3: public Hamster(int weight) {
4: System.out.println("chew");
5: // Set weight and default color
6: this(weight, "brown"); // DOES NOT COMPILE
7: }
```

Even though a print statement on line 4 doesn't change any variables, it is still a Java statement and is not allowed to be inserted before the call to this(). The comment on line 5 is just fine. Comments aren't considered statements and are allowed anywhere.

Here we summarize the rules you should know about constructors that we covered in this section. Study them well!

- A class can contain many overloaded constructors, provided the signature for each is distinct.
- The compiler inserts a default no-argument constructor if no constructors are declared.
- $\bullet$  If a constructor calls  $\ \mbox{\tt this}()$  , then it must be the first line of the constructor.
- . Tava does not allow evelic constructor calls

Success! Now Java calls the constructor that takes two parameters, with weight and color set as expected.

### THIS VS. THISQ

Despite using the same keyword, this and this() are very different. The first, this, refers to an instance of the class, while the second, this(), refers to a constructor call within the class. The exam may try to trick you by using both together, so make sure you know which one to use and why.

There's one last rule for overloaded constructors that you should be aware of. Consider the following definition of the Gopher class:

```
public class Gopher {
   public Gopher(int dugHoles) {
      this(5); // DOES NOT COMPILE
   }
}
```

The compiler is capable of detecting that this constructor is calling itself infinitely. This is often referred to as a *cycle* and is similar to the infinite loops that we discussed in <a href="Chapter 3">Chapter 3</a>. "Making Decisions." Since the code can never terminate, the compiler stops and reports this as an error. Likewise, this also does not compile.

Here we summarize the rules you should know about constructors that we covered in this section. Study them well!

- A class can contain many overloaded constructors, provided the signature for each is distinct.
- The compiler inserts a default no-argument constructor if no constructors are declared.
- If a constructor calls this(), then it must be the first line of the constructor.
- Java does not allow cyclic constructor calls.

Like calling this(), calling super() can only be used as the first statement of the constructor. For example, the following two class definitions will not compile

The first class will not compile because the call to the parent constructor must be first statement of the constructor. In the second code snippet, super() is the first statement of the constructor, but it is also used as the third statement. Since super() can only be called once as the first statement of the constructor, the code will not compile.

### Initialize Instance of X

- 1. Initialize Class X if it has not been previously initialized.
- 2. Initialize the superclass instance of X.

3. Process all instance variable declarations in the order in which they appear in the class.

4 Process all instance initializers in the order in which they appear in the class.
5 Initialize the constructor, including any overloaded constructors referenced with this().

```
this(5); // DOES NOT COMPILE
}
public Gopher(int dugHoles) {
this(); // DOES NOT COMPILE
}
}
```

We conclude this section by adding two constructor rules to your skill set.

- If a constructor calls super() or this(), then it must be the first line of the constructor.
- If the constructor does not contain a this() or super() reference, then
  the compiler automatically inserts super() with no arguments as the first
  line of the constructor.

### Initialize Class X

- 1. Initialize the superclass of X.
- Process all static variable declarations in the order in which they appear in the class.
- 3. Process all static initializers in the order in which they appear in the class.

  Let's try an example with no inheritance. See if you can figure out what the following solicitation outputs:

```
1: public class ZooTickets {
2: private String name = "BestZoo";
3: { system.out.print(name + "-"); }
4: private static int COUNT - 0;
5: static { system.out.print(cOUNT + "-"); }
6: static { COUNT - * 10} System.out.print(COUNT + "-"); }
7?
8: public ZooTickets() {
9: System.out.print("z-");
10: }
11:
12: public static void main(string. patrons) {
13: new ZooTickets();
14: }
```

The output is as follows:

0-10-BestZoo-z-

cuted. Remember, constructors are executed from the bottom up, but since the first line of every constructor is a call to another constructor, the flow ends up with the parent constructor executed before the child constructor.

```
1: class GiraffeFamily (
2: static { System.out.print("A"); }
3: { System.out.print("B"); }
4:
5: public GiraffeFamily(String name) {
6: this(1);
7: System.out.print("C");
8: }
9:
10: public GiraffeFamily() {
11: System.out.print("D");
12: }
13:
14: public GiraffeFamily(int stripes) {
15: System.out.print("B");
16: }
17: }
18: public class Okapi extends GiraffeFamily {
19: static { System.out.print("F"); }
20:
21: public Okapi(int stripes) {
22: super("sugar");
23: System.out.print("G");
24: }
25: { System.out.print("H"); }
26: public static void main(String[] grass) {
28: new Okapi(1);
29: System.out.print(");
20: new Okapi(1);
20: new Okapi(2);
31: new Okapi(2);
31: new Okapi(2);
```

To override a method, you must follow a number of rules. The compiler performs the following checks when you override a method:

- The method in the child class must have the same signature as the method in the parent class.
- The method in the child class must be at least as accessible as the method in the parent class.
- The method in the child class may not declare a checked exception that is new or broader than the class of any exception declared in the parent class method.
- If the method returns a value, it must be the same or a subtype of the method in the parent class, known as covariant return types.

While these rules may seem confusing or arbitrary at first, they are needed for consistency. Without these rules in place, it is possible to create contradictions within the Java language.

# AFBECGAT HG P

!! First instantiate all instance fields(including all block initializing) in order, and then execute constructor. This is after the super call from constructor.



Remember that a method signature is composed of the name of the method and method parameters. It does not include the return type, access modifiers, optional specifiers, or any declared exceptions.

### METHOD OVERRIDING INFINITE CALLS

You might be wondering whether the use of super in the previous example was required. For example, what would the following code output if we removed the super keyword?

```
public double getAverageWeight() {
   return getAverageWeight()+20; // StackOverflowError
}
```

In this example, the compiler would not call the parent Marsupial method; it would call the current Kangaroo method. The application will attempt to call itself infinitely and produce a StackOverflowError at runtime.

### Rule #3: Checked Exceptions

The third rule says that overriding a method cannot declare new checked exceptions or checked exceptions broader than the inherited method. This is done for polymorphic reasons similar to limiting access modifiers. In other words, you could end up with an object that is more restrictive than the reference type it is assigned to, resulting in a checked exception that is not handled or declared. One implication of this rule is that overridden methods are free to declare any number of new unchecked exceptions.



A simple test for covariance is the following: given an inherited return type A and an overriding return type B, can you assign an instance of B to a refe ence variable for A without a cast? If so, then they are covariant. This rule applies to primitive types and object types alike. If one of the return types is oid, then they both must be void, as nothing is covariant with void except itself.

!! Does not work for primitive types.

Exp int and short.

Even:

short b= 1;

int a = b

In Overriding this will throw an error.

It works only with reference objects, and for primitive types need to be the exact return type.

Let's try an example:

public class Reptile {
 protected void sleep() throws IOException ()

protected void exitShell() throws FileNotFoundException {}

public void sleep() throws FileNotFoundException () public woid hide() throws FileNotFoundException {} // DOES NOT CO public void exitShell() throws IOException () // DOES NOT CO

```
public class Bear {
      System.out.println("Bear is sneezing");
   public void hibernate() (
       System.out.println("Bear is hibernating");
   public static void laugh() (
      System.out.println("Bear is laughing");
public class SunBear extends Bear {
  public void sneeze() { // DOES NOT COMPILE
      System.out.println("Sun Bear sneezes quietly"):
   public static void hibernate() ( // DOES NOT COMPILE
       System.out.println("Sun Bear is going to sleep");
   protected static void laugh() { // DOES NOT COMPILE
    System.out.println("Sun Bear is laughing");
```

Easy so far. But there are some rules you need to be aware of:

- Only instance methods can be marked abstract within a class, not variables, constructors, or static methods.
- · An abstract class can include zero or more abstract methods, while a non-abstract class cannot contain any.
- · A non-abstract class that extends an abstract class must implement all inher-
- · Overriding an abstract method follows the existing rules for overriding methods that you learned about earlier in the chapter.

Like the final modifier, the abstract modifier can be placed before or after the Creating Constructors in Abstract Classes access modifier in class and method declarations, as shown in this Tiger class:

```
abstract public class Tiger (
   abstract public int claw();
```

The abstract modifier cannot be placed after the class keyword in a class declaration or after the return type in a method declaration. The following Bear and howl() declarations do not compile for these reasons:

```
public class abstract Bear { // DOES NOT COMPILE
  public int abstract howl(); // DOES NOT COMPILE
```

```
public abstract class Animal {
  abstract String getName();
public abstract class BigCat extends Animal {
 protected abstract void roar();
public class Lion extends BigCat {
  public String getName() {
     return "Lion";
  public void roar() {
     System.out.println("The Lion lets out a loud ROAR!");
```



While it is not possible to declare a method abstract and private, it is possible (albeit redundant) to declare a method final and private.

Even though abstract classes cannot be instantiated, they are still initialized through constructors by their subclasses. For example, consider the following

```
abstract class Mammal (
abstract CharSequence chew();
   public Mammal() {
        System.out.println(chew()); // Does this line compile?
public class Platypus extends Ma
   String chew() { return "yummy!"; }
public static void main(String[] args) {
       new Platypus();
```

```
public abstract class Turtle (
                                 // DOES NOT COMPILE
  public abstract long eat()
   public abstract void swim() {}; // DOES NOT COMPILE
   public abstract int getAge() { // DOES NOT COMPILE
     return 10;
  public abstract void sleep;
                               // DOES NOT COMPILE
  public void goInShell();
                                 // DOES NOT COMPILE
```

```
public abstract final class Tortoise { // DOES NOT COMPILE
  public abstract final void walk();  // DOES NOT COMPILE
```

### abstract and private Modifiers

A method cannot be marked as both abstract and private. This rule makes sense if you think about it. How would you define a subclass that implements a required method if the method is not inherited by the subclass? The answer is that you can't, which is why the compiler will complain if you try to do the

```
public abstract class Whale {
  private abstract void sing(); // DOES NOT COMPILE
```

sible (albeit redundant) to declare a method final and private.

### Creating immutable objects.

We carefully followed the first three rules, but unfortunately, a malicious caller could still modify our data.

```
var zebra = new Animal();
System.out.println(zebra.getFavoriteFoods()); // [Apples]
zebra.getFavoriteFoods().clear();
zebra.getFavoriteFoods().add("Chocolate Chip Cookies");
System.out.println(zebra.getFavoriteFoods()); // [Chocolate Chip Cookies]
```

```
var favorites = new ArrayList<String>();
favorites.add("Apples");
var zebra = new Animal(favorites); // Caller still has access to fav
System.out.println(zebra.getFavoriteFoodsItem(0)); // [Apples]

favorites.clear();
favorites.add("Chocolate Chip Cookies");
System.out.println(zebra.getFavoriteFoodsItem(0)); // [Chocolate Chip Cookies");
```

Whoops! It seems like Animal is not immutable anymore, since its contents can change after it is created. The solution is to make a copy of the list object containing the same elements.

```
public Animal(List<String> favoriteFoods) {
   if (favoriteFoods == null || favoriteFoods.size() == 0)
      throw new RuntimeException("favoriteFoods is required");
   this.favoriteFoods = new ArrayList<String>(favoriteFoods);
}
```

The copy operation is called a *defensive copy* because the copy is being made in case other code does something unexpected. It's the same idea as defensive driving: prevent a problem before it exists. With this approach, our Animal class is once again immutable.

### !!EXAM

- 1. E/O -> Doesn't understood deeply the requirements.
  - 2. A,B,F ->
  - 3. B,C
- 4. F ▶5. Æ €
  - Which of the following completes the constructor so that this code prints out 50?

```
public abstract class Whale {
   private abstract void sing(); // DOES NOT COMPILE
}

public class HumpbackWhale extends Whale {
   private void sing() {
       System.out.println("Humpback whale is singing");
   }
}
```

```
import java.util.*;
public final class Animal {    // An immutable object declaration
    private final List<String> favoriteFoods;

public Animal() {
        this.favoriteFoods = new ArrayList<String>();
        this.favoriteFoods.add("Apples");
    }

public int getFavoriteFoodsCount() {
    return favoriteFoods.size();
    }

public String getFavoriteFoodsItem(int index) {
    return favoriteFoods.get(index);
    }
}
```

## 2. Compile-time type vs. Runtime type

Java separates what's visible at compile time from what's executed at runtime.

Java Separates What's Visible at compile time from What's executed at randime.		
Stage	Controlled by	Determines
Compile-time	Declared type ( A )	What methods and fields you can access
Runtime	Actual object ( B )	What implementation gets executed

# Imagine if this were allowed: java A obj = new A(); obj.showB(); // allowed? (A doesn't have showB) That would blow up at runtime, because not all A objects are B. To prevent this, Java's type system enforces: You can only call members that are guaranteed to exist in the declared type.

This keeps Java statically type-safe.

🧠 3. Why this rule exists — type safety

### 6. Quick analogy

Think of the declared type as the contract and the actual object as the employee:

- You hire someone ( obj ) under the contract "A".
- Even if the person *knows more* (B skills), you can only *legally* ask them to do tasks written in the contract (A's methods).
- At runtime, they might perform their task in their own unique way (B's override).

5. E. The code compiles, making option F incorrect. An instance variable with the same name as an inherited instance variable is hidden, not overridden. This means that both variables exist, and the one that is used depends on the location and reference type.

Because the main() method uses a reference type of Speedster to access the numsports variable, the variable in the Speedster class, not the cheetah class, must be set to 50. Option A is incorrect, as it reassigns the method parameter to itself. Option B is incorrect, as it assigns the method parameter the value of the instance variable in cheetah, which is 0. Option C is incorrect, as it assigns the value to the instance variable in cheetah, not Speedster. Option D is incorrect, as it assigns the method parameter.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
   Speedster s = new Cheetah(50);
   System.out.print(s.numSpots);
             C. this.numSpots = numSpots;
             D. numSpots = super.numSpots;
               . None of the above.
6. D,E
7. A
```

correct, as it assigns the method parameter the value of the instance variable in Cheetah, which is 0. Option C is incorrect, as it assigns the value to the instance variable in Cheetah, not Speedster . Option D is incorrect, as it assigns the method parameter the value of the instance variable in Speedster, which is  $\theta$ . Options A, B, C, and D all print @ at runtime. Option E is the correct answer, as it assigns the instance variable numSpots in the Speedster class a value of  $50\,\mathrm{.}\,\mathrm{The}\,$  numSpots variable in the Speedster class is then correctly referenced in the main() method, printing 50 at runtime.

9. B, E. The signature must match exactly, making option A incorrect. There is no such thing as a covariant signature. An overridden

checked exception that is broader than the inherited method. For

this reason, option B is correct, and option D is incorrect. Option C is incorrect because an overridden method may have the same access modifier as the version in the parent class. Finally, overridden

methods must have covariant return types, and only void is co-

method must not declare any new checked exceptions or a

8. D

9. E 
9. Which of the following statements about over the amply.)

true? (Choose all that apply.)

A. An overridden method must contain method parame are the same or covariant with the method parameters in the inherited method.

C. An overridden method must be more accessible than the

method in the parent class.

D. An overridden method may declare a broader checked excep tion than the method in the parent class.

E. If an inherited method returns void, then the overridden ver sion of the method must return void. F. None of the above.

10. A,C

11. Tacbf -> C

▲ 12. ÆC

12. C. The code doesn't compile, so option A is incorrect. The first com pilation error is on line 8. Since Rodent declares at least one constructor, and it is not a no-argument constructor. Beaver must declare a constructor with an explicit call to a super() constructor. Line 9 contains two compilation errors. First, the return types are the inherited method is static, but the over thod is not, making this an invalid override. The code contains three compilation errors, although they are limited to two lines, making option C the correct answer.

variant with void, making option E correct.

13. A,G ¹ 14. B,E €

14. Which of the following statements about inheritance are correct? (Choose all that apply.)

A. A class can directly extend any number of classes.

B. A class can implement any number of interfaces.

C. All variables inherit java.lang.Object.

D. If class A is extended by B, then B is a superclass of A E. If class  $\, C \,$  implements interface  $\, D \,$  , then  $\, C \,$  is a subtype of  $\, D \,$ 

F. Multiple inheritance is the property of a class to have multiple

direct superclasses.

15. C,

16. uq uq uqcrcrm -> D

17 C,E,F

17. Which of the following are true? (Choose all that apply.)

A. this() can be called from anywhere in a constructor. B. this() can be called from anywhere in an instance method.

C. this.variableName can be called from any instance method in

the class.

D. this.variableName can be called from any static method in E. You can call the default constructor written by the compiler us-

ing this(). F. You can access a private constructor with the main() method in the same class.

18. D.F

19. 🗹 🛴

a subtype of that interface, making option E correct. Finally, option F is correct as it is an accurate description of multiple inheritance, which is not permitted in Java.

17. C, F. Calling an overloaded constructor with this() may be used only as the first line of a constructor, making options A and B incorrect. Accessing this.variableName can be performed from any instance method, constructor, or instance initializer, but not from a static method or static initializer. For this reason, option C is correct, and option D is incorrect. Option E is tricky. The default constructor is written by the compiler only if no user-defined constructors were provided. And this() can only be called from a constructor in the same class. Since there can be no userdefined constructors in the class if a default constructor was created, it is impossible for option E to be true. Since the  $\mbox{main()}$ method is in the same class, it can call private methods in the class, making option F correct.

ass Reptile (
 (System.out.print("A");)
 public Reptile(int hatch) ()
 void layiggs() (
 System.out.print("Reptile"); public final void layEggs() {
 System.out.print("lizard");

19. F. The Reptile class defines a constructor, but it is not a no-argument constructor. Therefore, the Lizard constructor must explicitly call super(), passing in an int value. For this reason, line 9 does not compile, and option F is the correct answer. If the Lizard class were corrected to call the appropriate super() constructor, then the program would print BALizard at runtime, with the static initializer running first, followed by the instance initializer, and finally the method call using the overridden method.

20:<u>F</u>A

20. E. The program compiles and runs without issue, making options A through D incorrect. The fly() method is correctly overridden in each subclass since the signature is the same, the access modifier is less restrictive, and the return types are covariant. For covari-

Ouick Notes Page 5

```
20:LA
```

20. E. The program compiles and runs without issue, making options A through D incorrect. The fly() method is correctly overridden in each subclass since the signature is the same, the access modifier is less restrictive, and the return types are covariant. For covariance, Macaw is a subtype of  ${\tt Parrot}\,, {\tt which}$  is a subtype of  ${\tt Bird}\,,$ so overridden return types are valid. Likewise, the constructors are all implemented properly, with explicit calls to the parent constructors as needed. Line 19 calls the overridden version of flv() defined in the Macaw class, as overriding replaces the method regardless of the reference type. This results in feathers being assigned a value of 3. The Macaw object is then cast to Parrot. which is allowed because Macaw inherits Parrot. The feathers variable is visible since it is defined in the Bird class, and line 19 prints 3, making option E the correct answer.

### ► 21. E.F.G

21. Which of the following are properties of immutable classes? (Choose all that apply.)

- A. The class can contain setter methods, provided they are marked final.
- B. The class must not be able to be extended outside the class declaration.
- C. The class may not contain any instance variables.
- D. The class must be marked static.
- E. The class may not contain any static variables.
- F. The class may only contain private constructors.
- G. The data for mutable instance variables may be read, provided they cannot be modified by the caller.

**4** 22. **₽** 22. What does the following program print?

```
1: class Person {
2: static String name;
                   void setName(String q) { name = q; } }
public class Child extends Person {
                             ublic class child extends Person {
    static String name;
    void setName(String w) { name - w; }
    public static void main(String[] p) {
        final child m - new child();
        final Person t = m;
        n.name = "Elysia";
        t.name = "Sophia";
        n.setName("Webby");
        t.setName("Webby");
        t.setName("Olivia");
        System.out.println(m.name + " " + t.name);
    }
}
```

22. D. The code compiles and runs without issue, making option E incorrect. The Child class overrides the setName() method and hides the static name variable defined in the inherited Person class. Since variables are only hidden, not overridden, there are uses the Person reference type, updating Person, name to Sophia, Lines 12 and 13 both call the overridden setName() inon line 12 and then to Olivia on line 13. The final values of Child.name and Person.name are Olivia and Sophia, respec-

tion A incorrect. An in

elements.

21. B. G. Immutable objects do not include setter methods, making op-

and make it mutable, making option B correct. Options C and E are

static is not a property of immutable objects. Option F is incor-

structors, this is not a requirement. Finally, option G is correct. It is

allowed for the caller to access data in mutable elements of an im-

rect. While an immutable class may contain only private con-

mutable object, provided they have no ability to modify these

incorrect, as immutable classes can contain both instance and static variables. Option D is incorrect, as marking a class

tors, so no sub

A. Elysia Sophia C. Olivia Olivia

E. The code does not compile

!!!! In instance methods you could use static variables

### but not reversed.

### 23. QPZi -> B

24. 182943 -> **K** 24. What is printed by the following program?

```
public Antelope(int p) {
  5
        System.out.print("4");
5: h { System.out.print("2"); }
6: ↑ static { System.out.print("1"); }
8: public class Gazelle extends Antelope {
     public Gazelle(int p) {
13: public static void main(String hopping[]) {
14:
        new Gazelle(0);
15:
16: 2 static { System.out.print("8"); }
17: 6 { System.out.print("9"); }
18: }
```

- A. 182640
- B. 182943

- E. The code does not compile
- F. The output cannot be determined until runtime.

# 25. B,C

26 D, 6
26. What is the output of the following code?

```
4: public abstract class Whale {
      public abstract void dive();
6:
      public static void main(String[] args) {
          Whale whale = new Orca();
          whale.dive(3);
10: }
11: class Orca extends Whale {
12: static public int MAX = 3;
```

24. C. The code compiles and runs without issue, making options E and F incorrect. First, the class is initialized, starting with the perclass Antelope and then the subclass Gazelle. This involves invoking the static variable declarations and static initializers. The program first prints 1, followed by 8. Then we follow the or pathway from the object created on line 14 upward. initializing each class instance using a top-down ach, Within each class, the instance initializers are run, followed by the referenced constructors. The Antelope instance is initialized, printing 24 , followed by the Gazelle instance, printing 93 . The final output is 182493, making option C the correct answer.

two distinct name variables accessible, depending on the location and reference type. Line 8 creates a Child instance, which is implicitly cast to a Person reference type on line 9. Line 10 uses the Child reference type, updating Child.name to Elysia. Line 11 stance method declared on line 6. This sets Child.name to Webby tively, making option D the correct answer.

26. What is the output of the following code?

- A. Orca diving
- B. Orca diving deeper 3
- C. The code will not compile because of line 4.
- D. The code will not compile because of line 8.
- E. The code will not compile because of line 11.
- F. The code will not compile because of line 12.
- G. The code will not compile because of line 17.
- H. None of the above.

### 14/26