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- 1. The class is the definition of the object, an object is an instance of a class. A class specifies member functions and member variables that belong to an object. A class can have many instances.
- 2. A member variable is a variable that corresponds to an instance of an object. These exist inside an object as its state. Each instance of an object has independent member variables.
- 3. A member function is a function that is declared as a member of a class. A member function belongs to an object, and when it is called it has access to the internal state of an object.
- 4. Inheritance employs an IS-A relationship, while composition is a HAS-A relationship. Such as a child is a person, or a car has an engine.
- 5. A constructor is a special member function that is called to instantiate a class. The constructor is only called once during the lifetime of an object, and is responsible for initializing the state of an object.
- 6. The special function name is def __init__(...): and it is only called once during the lifetime of an object.