

Fifth Day

Topics to be covered -

OOPS - Polymorphism

- Runtime Polymorphism
- Compile Time Polymorphism.

Polymorphism

Polymorphism in Java is a concept that allows objects of different classes to be treated as objects of a common superclass or interface.

↳ It enables flexibility and extensibility in programming by allowing methods to be defined in a general way in superclass and overridden or implemented differently in the subclass.

- There are two types of polymorphism :

1. Compile Time Polymorphism (Method Overloading)
2. RunTime Polymorphism (Method overriding)

1. Compile Time Polymorphism (Static Polymorphism) :

- Known as - Method Overloading or static binding.
- Occurs when the compiler determines the appropriate method or operation to be executed based on the method signature during the compilation phase.
- The decision is made at compile-time based on number, types and order of Arguments.
- Example include having multiple methods with the same name but different parameters in a class.

* Rules of Method Overloading :

- Method Name : overloaded methods must have the same name
- Parameter List : > Overloaded methods must have diff. parameter lists.
 - > parameters can be diff. in terms of parameters, their types and/or both.
 - > The order of the parameters can also be different.
- Return Type : > The return type of the method does not play a role in method overloading.
 - > overloaded methods can have the same or different return types.

- Access Modifier: The access modifier (public, private, protected) can be same or different for overloaded methods.
- Exceptions:
 - > Overloaded methods can declare the same or different checked or unchecked exceptions.
 - > If a method throws a checked exception, an overloaded method in the same class or its subclasses can throw the same exception or its subclass.
- Method Signature:
 - > Overloaded/method signature consist of the method name and the parameter list.
 - > Overloaded methods must have a diff. method signature, means parameter list must be different.
- Inheritance: Overloading methods can exist in the same class or different classes within the same hierarchy of inheritance.
- Overriding:
 - > Overloaded methods are not related to method overriding.
 - > Overloaded methods exist within the same class or its subclasses, while overridden methods exist b/w a superclass and its subclasses.

2. Runtime Polymorphism (Dynamic Polymorphism) :

- Also known as method overriding or dynamic binding.
- Occurs when the appropriate method or operation to be executed is determined at runtime based on the actual object type.
- The decision is made dynamically at runtime based on the object's actual class.
- Examples include having a superclass reference pointing to a subclass object and invoking overridden methods.

★ NOTE

Polymorphism allows for code reusability, abstraction, and the ability to write generic code that can work with objects of different types without knowing their specific implementation.

↳ It promotes loose coupling between classes and enhances code flexibility and maintainability.