# Checked vs. Unchecked Exceptions

- All exceptions are processed at run-time
  - no run-time difference between checked and unchecked exceptions
- Checked exceptions provide extra security at compile time
- The compiler checks:

### If a method *might* throw a checked exception, then either:

- The throw is in a try block that has a catch for that exception,
- The method reports that it *might* throw the exception with "throws"

# Throws Syntax

```
modifiers returnType method_name (parameters) throws {
   body
}
```

- *throws* comma separated list of Exception Types that might be thrown by this method
- If you invoke a method that might throw a checked exception, The compiler checks that either:
  - The method is invoked inside a try/catch block that catches that exception,
  - Or you report that your method might throw the exception in your throws list

# Defining Checked vs. Unchecked

- Exceptions which extend RunTimeException are **not** checked
- Exceptions which do **not** extend RunTimeException are checked

#### **Class FileNotFoundException**

- •java.lanq.Object
  - java.lang.Throwable
    - java.lang.Exception
      - java.io.IOException
        - java.io.FileNotFoundException

#### **Class NullPointerException**

java.lang.Object

- java.lang.Throwable
  - java.lang.Exception
    - java.lang.RuntimeException
      - java.lang.NullPointerException

checked

unchecked

# Checked Exception Responsibility

#### If you:

- throw a checked exception,
- or invoke a method which throws a checked exception

#### You must either

- Surround the throw in a try/catch block
  - Take responsibility for that checked exception and catch it

#### Or

- Indicate that you might throw that exception in your "throws"
  - Delegate catching the exception to all your callers

### Java Library: Checked exceptions

- The Java library class methods may throw checked exceptions
- The documentation does not always highlight this

- E.g. Scanner sc = new Scanner(new File("quotes.txt"));
- In Scanner(File source) documentation:

Throws:

checked Exception

FileNotFoundException - if source is not found