

Comparable Interface

Comparable is an interface which is present in java.lang package

In this interface, there is only one abstract method compareTo()

It returns negative, if objOne < objTwo

It returns positive, if objOne > objTwo

It returns zero, if objOne == objTwo

Only one sort sequence can be created

It is implemented by String, Wrapper Classes etc.

Note :-

The Collections.sort() uses compareTo() internally to sort the elements of ArrayList. Therefore the objects present inside the ArrayList must be Comparable type. i.e the class for which the objects are created must implement Comparable interface and provide implementation to compareTo().

Syntax :-

```
public int compareTo(T o);
```

ex:-

```
public class CollFrameWork implements Comparable{
    int eid;
    CollFrameWork(int eid) {
        this.eid = eid;
    }
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "eid=" + eid ;
    }
    @Override
    public int compareTo(Object o) {
        CollFrameWork c=(CollFrameWork)o;
        if(eid==c.eid) {
            return 0;
        }
        else if(eid>c.eid) {
            return 1;
        }

        return -1;
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        CollFrameWork cf=new CollFrameWork(3);
        CollFrameWork cf1=new CollFrameWork(1);
        CollFrameWork cf2=new CollFrameWork(2);
```

```

        ArrayList a=new ArrayList();
        a.add(cf);
        a.add(cf1);
        a.add(cf2);

        Collections.sort(a);
        for(Object ob:a) {
            System.out.println(ob);
        }
    }
}
ex2:-
public class CollFrameWork implements Comparable{
    int eid;
    String name;
    int salary;
    CollFrameWork(int eid, String name, int salary) {
        this.eid = eid;
        this.name = name;
        this.salary = salary;
    }
    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "CollFrameWork [eid=" + eid + ", name=" + name + ", salary=" + salary
+ "];"
    }
    @Override
    public int compareTo(Object o) {
        CollFrameWork c=(CollFrameWork)o;
        if(salary==c.salary) {
            return 0;
        }
        else if(salary>c.salary) {
            return 1;
        }

        return -1;
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        CollFrameWork cf=new CollFrameWork(3,"sathya",20000);
        CollFrameWork cf1=new CollFrameWork(1,"sathyam",22500);
        CollFrameWork cf2=new CollFrameWork(3,"malavika",12000);

        ArrayList a=new ArrayList();
        a.add(cf);
        a.add(cf1);
        a.add(cf2);

```

```
        Collections.sort(a);  
        for(Object ob:a) {  
            System.out.println(ob);  
        }  
    }  
}
```