NESTED CLASS Tanjina Helaly

NESTED CLASS

- Java inner class or nested class is a class i.e. declared inside a class or interface.
- We use inner classes to logically group classes and interfaces in one place so that it can be more readable and maintainable.
- Additionally, it can access all the members of outer class including private data members and methods.
- Structure

```
class Java_Outer_class{
  //code
    class Java_Inner_class{
      //code
    }
}
```

ADVANTAGE OF JAVA NESTED CLASSES

- There are few advantages of inner classes in java. They are as follows:
 - 1) Nested classes represent a special type of relationship that is **it can access all the members** (data members and methods) of outer class including private.
 - 2) Nested classes are used **to develop more readable and maintainable code** because it logically group classes and interfaces in one place only.
 - 3) Code Optimization: It requires less code to write.
 - 4) **Encapsulation**: it increases encapsulation. Inner class can be private. Also inner class can access the private member of outer class.

Types of Nested Classes

- There are two types of nested classes.
 - Non-static nested class(inner class)
 - o a)Member inner class
 - b)Anonymous inner class
 - o c)Local inner class
 - Static nested class

Туре	Description
Member Inner Class	A class created within class and outside method.
Anonymous Inner Class	A class created for implementing interface or extending class. Its name is decided by the java compiler.
<u>Local Inner Class</u>	A class created within method.
Static Nested Class	A static class created within class.
Nested Interface	An interface created within class or interface.

MEMBER INNER CLASS

INNER CLASS

- A non-static class that is created inside a class but outside a method is called member inner class.
- Example:

```
class TestMemberOuter1{
    private int data=30;
    class Inner{
        void msg(){
            System.out.println("data is "+data);
        }
}

public static void main(String args[]){
    TestMemberOuter1 obj=new TestMemberOuter1();
    TestMemberOuter1.Inner in=obj.new Inner();
    in.msg();
}
```

• msg() method in member inner class - accessing the private data member of outer class.

INNER CLASS

• To access inner class's member from outer class, you need to access via object of inner class.

Output:

Show method Inner Method --End of Show method--Inner Method

INNER CLASS - SHADOWING

Accessing shadowed variable

```
public class TestMemberOuter {
                                                              Output:
    int x = 10;
                                                              Parameter: 30
                                                              Inner Variable: 20
    class Inner{
                                                              Outer Variable: 10
       int x = 20;
       public void show(int x){
          System.out.println("Parameter: " + x);
          System.out.println("Inner Variable: " + this.x);
          System.out.println("Outer Variable: " + TestMemberOuter.this.x);
    public static void main(String[] args) {
       TestMemberOuter tmo = new TestMemberOuter();
       TestMemberOuter.Inner in = tmo.new Inner();
      in.show(30);
```

Anonymous Inner Class

Anonymous Class

- An **anonymous class** is defined and instantiated in a single succinct expression using the new operator.
- While a local **class** definition is a statement in a block of **Java** code,
- an **anonymous class** definition is an expression, which means that it can be included as part of a larger expression, such as a method call.

Anonymous Class

- Java Anonymous inner class can be created by two ways:
 - Class (may be abstract or concrete).
 - Interface
- An anonymous class must implement all the abstract methods in the super class or the interface.
- An anonymous class always uses the default constructor from the super class to create an instance.

Anonymous Class

- The anonymous class expression consists of the following:
 - The new operator
 - The name of an interface to implement or a class to extend.
 - Parentheses that contain the arguments to a constructor, just like a normal class instance creation expression.
 - **Note**: When you implement an interface, there is no constructor, so you use an empty pair of parentheses, as in this example.
 - A body, which is a class declaration body. More specifically, in the body, method declarations are allowed but statements are not.
- Because an anonymous class definition is an expression, it must be part of a statement.
 - Always ends with semicolon

Anonymous Class — Example by Extending a class

```
abstract class Person{
  abstract void eat();
class TestAnonymousInner{
   public static void main(String args[]){
       Person p=new Person(){
           void eat(){
                System.out.println("nice fruits");
    p.eat();
Output: nice fruits
```

Internal working of given code

- A class is created but its name is decided by the compiler which extends the Person class and provides the implementation of the eat() method.
- An object of Anonymous class is created that is referred by p reference variable of Person type.
- o Internal class generated by the compiler
 static class TestAnonymousInner\$1 extends Person
 {
 TestAnonymousInner\$1(){}
 void eat()
 {
 System.out.println("nice fruits");
 }
 }

Anonymous Class — Example by Implementing an interface

```
interface Eatable{
  void eat();
class TestAnnonymousInner1{
   public static void main(String args[]){
       Eatable e=new Eatable(){
       public void eat(){System.out.println("nice fruits");}
   e.eat();
```

Output: nice fruits

INTERNAL CLASS GENERATED BY THE COMPILER

```
static class TestAnonymousInner1$1 implements Eatable
{
    TestAnonymousInner1$1(){}
    void eat(){
        System.out.println("nice fruits");
    }
}
```

WHAT YOU CAN & CAN'T DO

- Like local classes, anonymous classes can <u>capture</u> <u>variables</u>; they have the same access to local variables of the enclosing scope:
 - An anonymous class has access to the members of its enclosing class.
 - An anonymous class cannot access local variables in its enclosing scope that are not declared as final or effectively final.
 - Like a nested class, a declaration of a type (such as a variable) in an anonymous class shadows any other declarations in the enclosing scope that have the same name. See Shadowing for more information.
- Anonymous classes also have the same restrictions as local classes with respect to their members:
 - You cannot declare static initializers or member interfaces in an anonymous class.
 - An anonymous class can have static members provided that they are constant variables.

WHAT YOU CAN & CAN'T DO

- Note that you can declare the following in anonymous classes:
 - Fields
 - Extra methods (even if they do not implement any methods of the supertype)
 - You can access the method only inside the class.
 - o but not outside e.g. via object.
 - Because the reference is of Parent type and parent can't access child's method.
 - Instance initializers
 - Local classes
 - However, you cannot declare constructors in an anonymous class.

EXAMPLE

```
public class Person {
    String name;
    public Person(String a) {
        name = a;
    }
    public void display() {
        System.out.println("Hello from Person " + name);
    }
    public void display(String msg) {
        System.out.println("Hello from Person "+name+":"+ msg);
    }
}
```

EXAMPLE

```
public class AnonymousWithClass {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       Person p = new Person("Tanjina") {
       @Override
       public void display() {
          display(2); // this is fine
          System.out.println("Hello from Annonymous");
        // Extra method
       public void display(int a) {
         System.out.println("Number: " + a);
       p.display();
       p.display("3"); // <u>Ok</u>
       p.display(3); // error: The method display(String) in the type Person
         is not applicable for the arguments (int)
```

LOCAL INNER CLASS

LOCAL INNER CLASS

- A class i.e. created **inside a method** is called local inner class in java.
- If you want to invoke the methods of local inner class, you must instantiate this class inside the method.
- Local inner class cannot be invoked from outside the method.
- Local inner class cannot access non-final local variable till JDK 1.7. Since JDK 1.8, it is possible to access the non-final local variable in local inner class.

LOCAL INNER CLASS - EXAMPLE

```
class localInner2{
    private int data=30;//instance variable
    void display(){
         int value=50;//local variable must be final till jdk 1.7 only
         class Local{
         void msg(){System.out.println(value);}
        Local l=new Local();
         l.msg();
    public static void main(String args[]){
     localInner2 obj=new localInner2();
     obj.display();
```

STATIC NESTED CLASS

STATIC NESTED CLASS

- A static class i.e. created inside a class is called static nested class in java.
 - It cannot access non-static (instance) data members and methods. It can be accessed by outer class name.
 - It can access static data members of outer class including private.
- In order to access the instance method of Inner class
 - Need to create the instance of static nested class because it has instance method msg().
 - But you don't need to create the object of Outer class because nested class is static and static properties, methods or classes can be accessed without object.
- If you have the static member inside static nested class,
 - you don't need to create instance of static nested class.

STATIC NESTED CLASS - EXAMPLE

```
class TestOuter1{
     static int data=30;
     static class Inner{
       void msg(){
          System.out.println("data is "+data);
       static void msg(String msg){
          System.out.println(msg);
     public static void main(String args[]){
       TestOuter1.Inner obj=new TestOuter1.Inner();
       obj.msg();
       TestOuter1.Inner.msg("Hello");//no need to create the instance of static nes
       ted class
```

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