

References & Pointers

While slicing is a problem it is not the only culprit here. Even without slicing, the code would still not work because in C++ **polymorphism only works with references or pointers**.

To see, this, make the following changes to `main.cpp`:

```
Student sam = Student("Sam", 201795);
Person pam = Person("Pam B.");
Person& samRef = sam;
Person* samPtr = &sam;
cout << "sam says->" << samRef.toString() << endl;
cout << "sam says->" << samPtr->toString() << endl;
cout << "pam says->" << pam.toString() << endl;
```

Now, the `Person&` reference `samRef` refers to the Student object `sam`, and when we call `samRef.toString()` it calls `Student::toString()`, not `Person::toString()` like our previous examples did.

The same thing happens if we use the `Person* samPtr`. It is also polymorphic.



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