

Lesson 4 FAQs

Q: Is there any difference between an object and an instance of a class?

A: No, the terms are synonymous. An object is an instance, and an instance is an object.

Q: Let's say I create and initialize a reference variable in one statement, like this:

```
TextWriter tw2 = new TextWriter("And this line is from my second object.");
```

Why does the class name `TextWriter` have to be on both sides of the assignment?

A: The class name on the left says what type the variable should be, and the class name on the right says what type of object to create. They're usually the same, but not always.

In *Intermediate Java Programming*, I'll talk about why and when the class names can be different. (How's that for a shameless plug for my other Java class?)