- 1. By writing the body in the header, we can see the definition of the function in addition to the declaration, so we can understand how the function works by looking at the header file alone. We can also avoid linking time errors since both declaration and definition is in the same file.
- 2. If the member function is long and complicated, writing it in the header file will make the file difficult to read and understand. Since the purpose of the header file is to let the user and compiler knows which member functions are present and how to use/call them; and the implementation of these functions is done in the corresponding source file.
- 3. If the member function is very short (one or two lines) and straightforward, I would choose to write it directly in the header file. Otherwise, I think it is better for the body of member functions to be written in a separate source file to keep the header file simple.