G52CPP Coursework 3 and 4

Demo Tutorial B

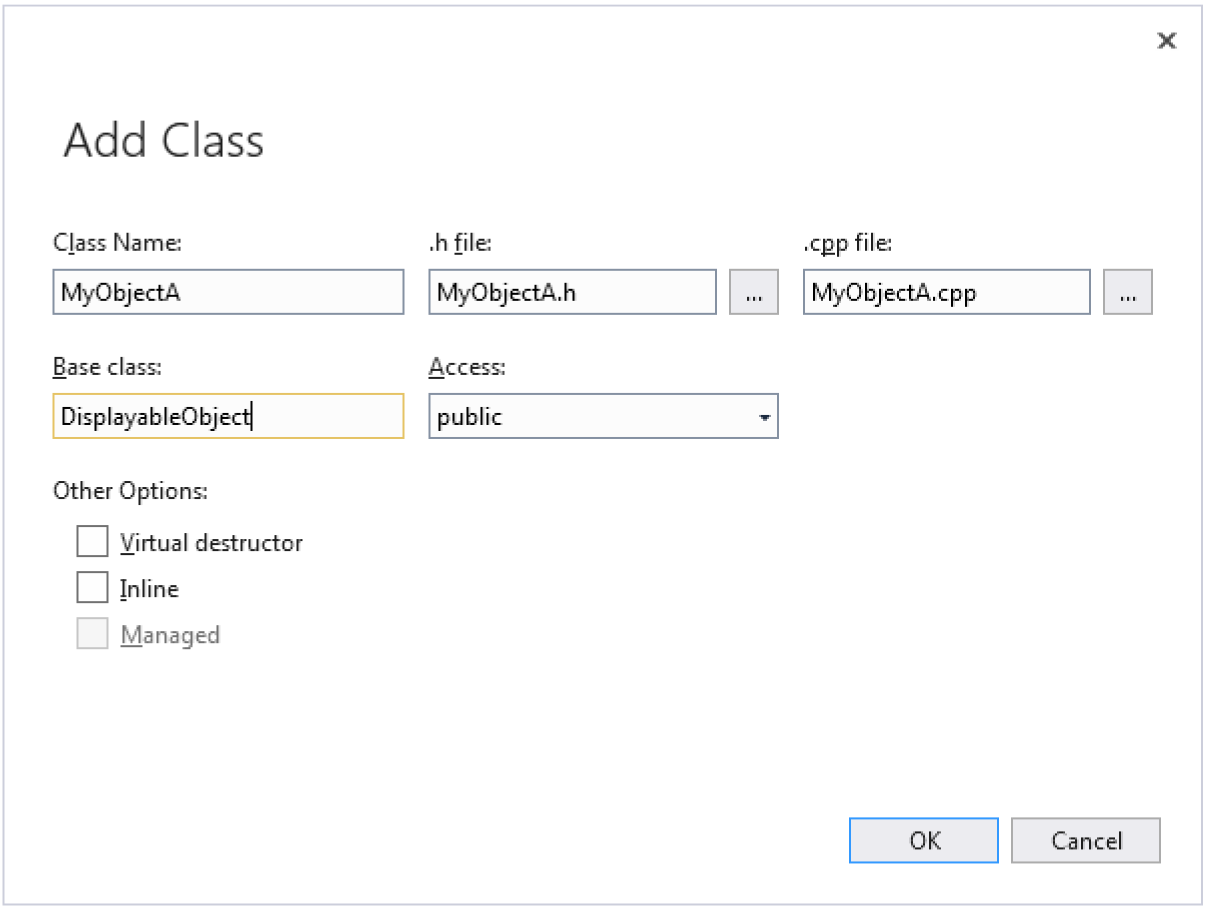
Completing these two demo tutorials should enable you to learn enough of the basics of using the framework to be able to understand the various demos that have been supplied.

Coursework Lab B

It is extremely important that you finish demo tutorial A first, otherwise this lab session will probably not make sense to you. Lab A gives you a lot of the background and basics. The aim of the first of these two lab sessions is for you to learn the basics of how the coursework framework works. In the first session you see how to draw backgrounds and handle user input. In this second session you will learn about moving objects – drawing them and controlling them.

Load your files from the end of Lab A, since these will be your starting point.

Create a new class call MyObjectA, which is a subclass of DisplayableObject.


Add Class

Class Name: MyObjectA

.h file: MyObjectA.h

.cpp file: MyObjectA.cpp

Base class: DisplayableObject

Access: public

Other Options:

- [ ] Virtual destructor
- [ ] Inline
- [ ] Managed

Here is the basic code which it will create:

```
#include "DisplayableObject.h"
class MyObjectA :
	public DisplayableObject
{
public:
	MyObjectA();
	~MyObjectA();
};
```

Try to build it and you will find a lot of compilation errors.

Go to the .cpp file and add the #include of header.h as in the demo lab A.

```
#include "header.h"
```

Now try to build it. It still will not build! There is a problem with the constructor which is created for you, since there is no base class constructor which takes no parameters.

```
1>…cppcoursework2019\src\myobjecta.cpp(5): error C2512: 'DisplayableObject': no
appropriate default constructor available
1>…cppcoursework2019\src\displayableobject.h(7): note: see declaration of
'DisplayableObject'
```

The base class constructor needs a pointer to the main program class (BaseEngine subclass). We need to accept this pointer in our own constructor and pass it on to the base class constructor manually. We will fix this now by changing the header file as follows:

```
#pragma once
#include "DisplayableObject.h"
class MyObjectA :
	public DisplayableObject
{
public:
	MyObjectA(BaseEngine* pEngine); // THIS LINE CHANGED!!!
	~MyObjectA();
};
```

Now go back to the `.cpp` file. Add the same change the constructor to take a single parameter, and to pass this to the base class constructor using the initialisation list (we will discuss this in lectures):

```
MyObjectA::MyObjectA(BaseEngine* pEngine)
	: DisplayableObject(pEngine)
{
}
```

Your `.cpp` file should now be as follows:

```
#include "header.h"
#include "MyObjectA.h"

MyObjectA::MyObjectA(BaseEngine* pEngine)
	: DisplayableObject(pEngine)
{
}

MyObjectA::~MyObjectA()
{
}
```

It should now compile correctly, but the object will not appear (you should still see the dotted background from the previous lab though).

Finally, you need to give it some initial position and size. To do this you just set the initial values for some member variables in the constructor:

```
MyObjectA::MyObjectA(BaseEngine* pEngine)
	: DisplayableObject(pEngine)
{
	m_iCurrentScreenX = 100;
	m_iCurrentScreenY = 200;
	m_iDrawWidth = 100;
	m_iDrawHeight = 200;
}
```

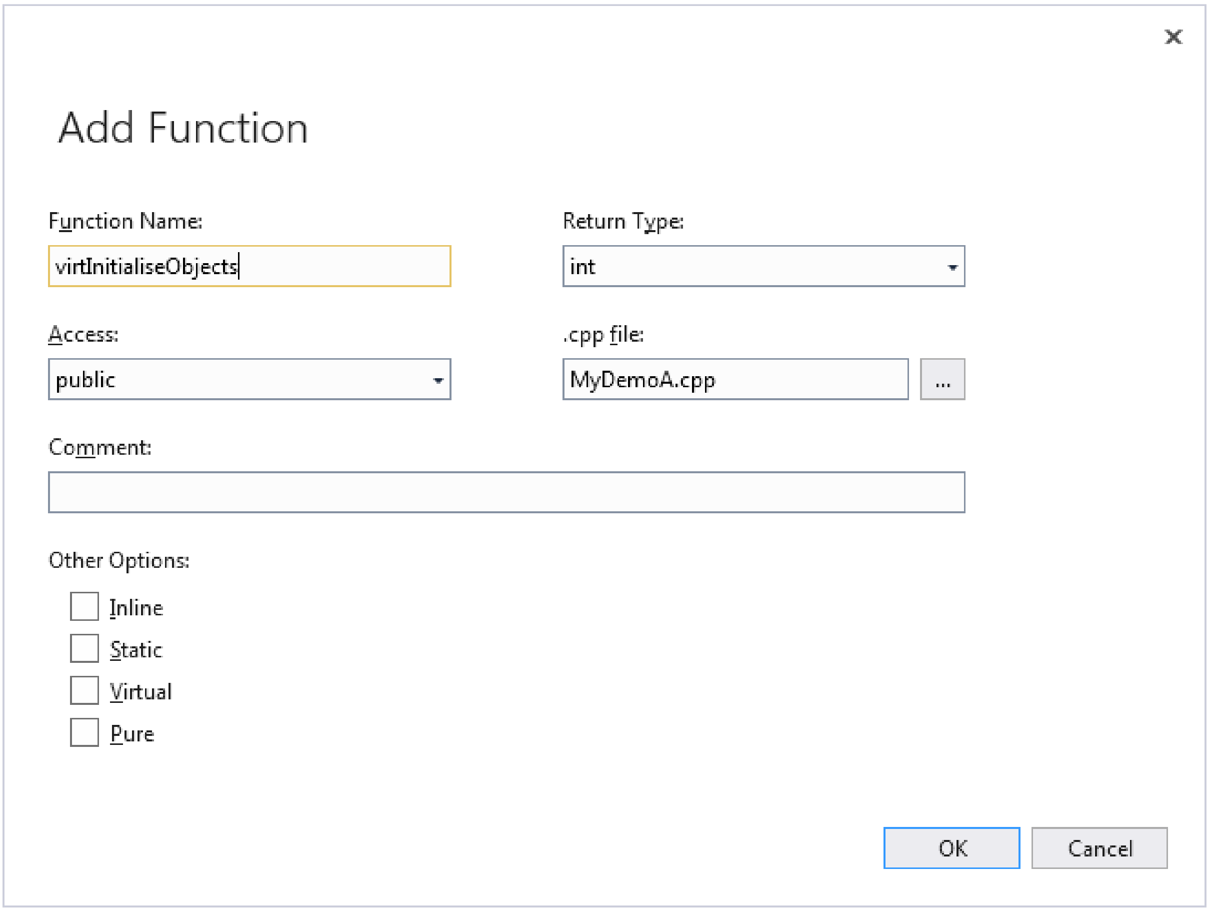
OR you can pass them to the alternative form of the base class constructor:

```
MyObjectA::MyObjectA(BaseEngine* pEngine)
	: DisplayableObject(100, 200, pEngine, 100, 200, true )
{
}
```

The first two parameters are the starting x and y coordinates, then you get the pointer to the main class, then the width and height. The final parameter specifies whether the object is drawn relative to the centre of the object or the top left. If you specify true the coordinates you specified are the top left of the object. If not then the coordinates are the centre of the object – i.e. the object is drawn at an offset from those coordinates. Some examples use one form and some the other. For example, if you want to check for collision between two circles then it is sensible to maintain the centre of the circles rather than the top left of the square around them. Experiment to see how these work.

Create one of these objects in the BaseGame sub-class

Implement the virtual function virtInitialiseObjects() in the MyDemoA.h class. This has an `int` return value and no parameters:



Add Function

Function Name: virtInitialiseObjects

Return Type: int

Access: public

.cpp file: MyDemoA.cpp

Comment:

Other Options:

- [ ] Inline
- [ ] Static
- [ ] Virtual
- [ ] Pure

Go to the DemoAMain.cpp file and find the new function:

```
int MyDemoA::virtInitialiseObjects()
{
	// TODO: Add your implementation code here.
	return 0;
}
```

This is a really important function. You need to create all of the objects which will be moving, and store pointers to them in the array. You will now add some code to it to create an object of type `MyDemoA`.

First, go to the top of the .cpp file for MyDemoA, and add a `#include` for the header file, so that the top of the file looks like this:

```
#include "header.h"
#include "MyDemoA.h"
#include "ImageManager.h"
#include "MyObjectA.h"  // This is the new line!
```

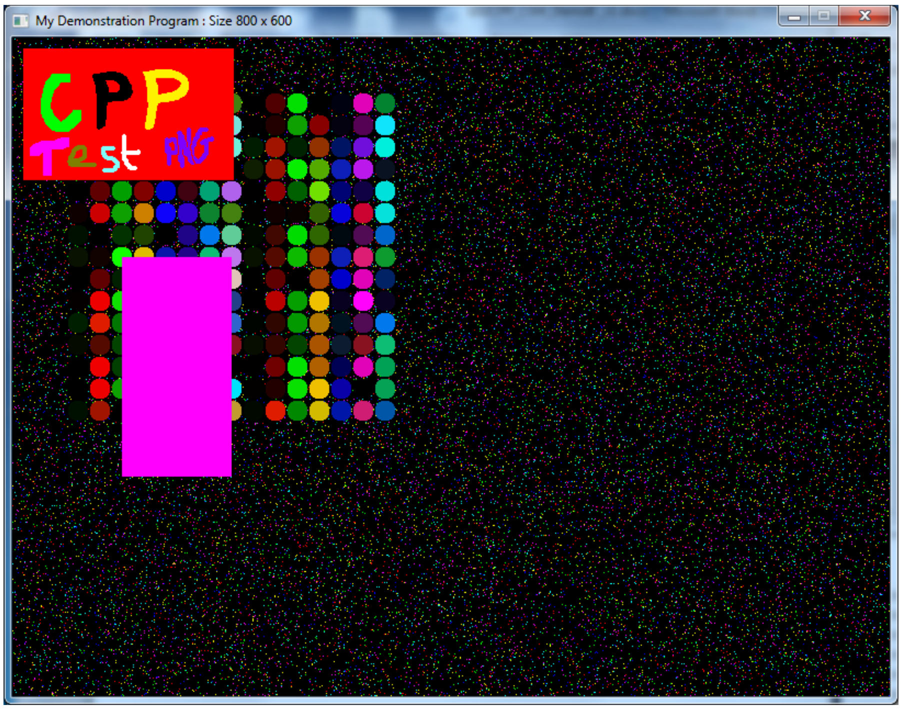
You need to add the `include` so that the compiler knows what a `MyObjectA` is when you use it.

Now add the following implementation to the `InitialiseObjects` function:

```
int MyDemoA::virtInitialiseObjects()
{
	// Record the fact that we are about to change the array
	// so it doesn't get used elsewhere without reloading it
	drawableObjectsChanged();

	// Destroy any existing objects
	destroyOldObjects(true);

	// Creates an array big enough for the number of objects that you want.
	createObjectArray(1);

	// You MUST set the array entry after the last one that you create to NULL,
	// so that the system knows when to stop.
	storeObjectInArray(0, new MyObjectA(this));

	// NOTE: We also need to destroy the objects, but the method at the
	// top of this function will destroy all objects pointed at by the
	// array elements so we can ignore that here.

	setAllObjectsVisible(true);
	return 0;
}
```

The key parts here are the createObjectArray, which creates a (static sized) array of objects, and the storeObjectInArray. The system will notify all objects in the array every few milliseconds and then will draw each object if it needs redrawing. If you do not put objects in the array, they will not be asked to update themselves and will not be drawn!

Run the program and you should see the default purple colour for object drawing:



`virtInitialiseObjects` does the following:

- Firstly it records that you have changed the drawable objects array. You MUST do this at the start of any implementation of this function, in case it is being called while the object array is being used.
- Next it looks at any objects which are stored in the array already and deletes them. This means that you never need to worry about destroying the objects, just call this function and it will do it for you. Aside: if you need the objects to NOT be destroyed for you then you should remove them from the array before you can this function, OR you can set the deleteOnRemoval to false by overriding the function in your object class:

  ```
  bool deleteOnRemoval() { return false; }
  ```

- Now it creates a new array of `DisplayableObject` pointers by calling the createObjectArray() function. You will probably change the implementation of this function when you do the coursework, but the current implementation just uses a standard C/C++ array type so that this really is an array of pointers. In this case the array has 2 elements. You must have one more element than you need displayable objects, because you must set the last element to `NULL` (much like for a C-type string).
- Finally, it sets the elements of the array to point to new objects of the correct type. In this case one `MyObjectA`, then uses a `NULL` to mark the end of the array. You should call the `storeObjectInArray`() function to store the object pointer for objects that you create.
- Finally, the very last thing this code does is set all objects to be visible. The objects could instead set themselves as visible in their constructors (or elsewhere) if you wish, and then you could not need to do this.

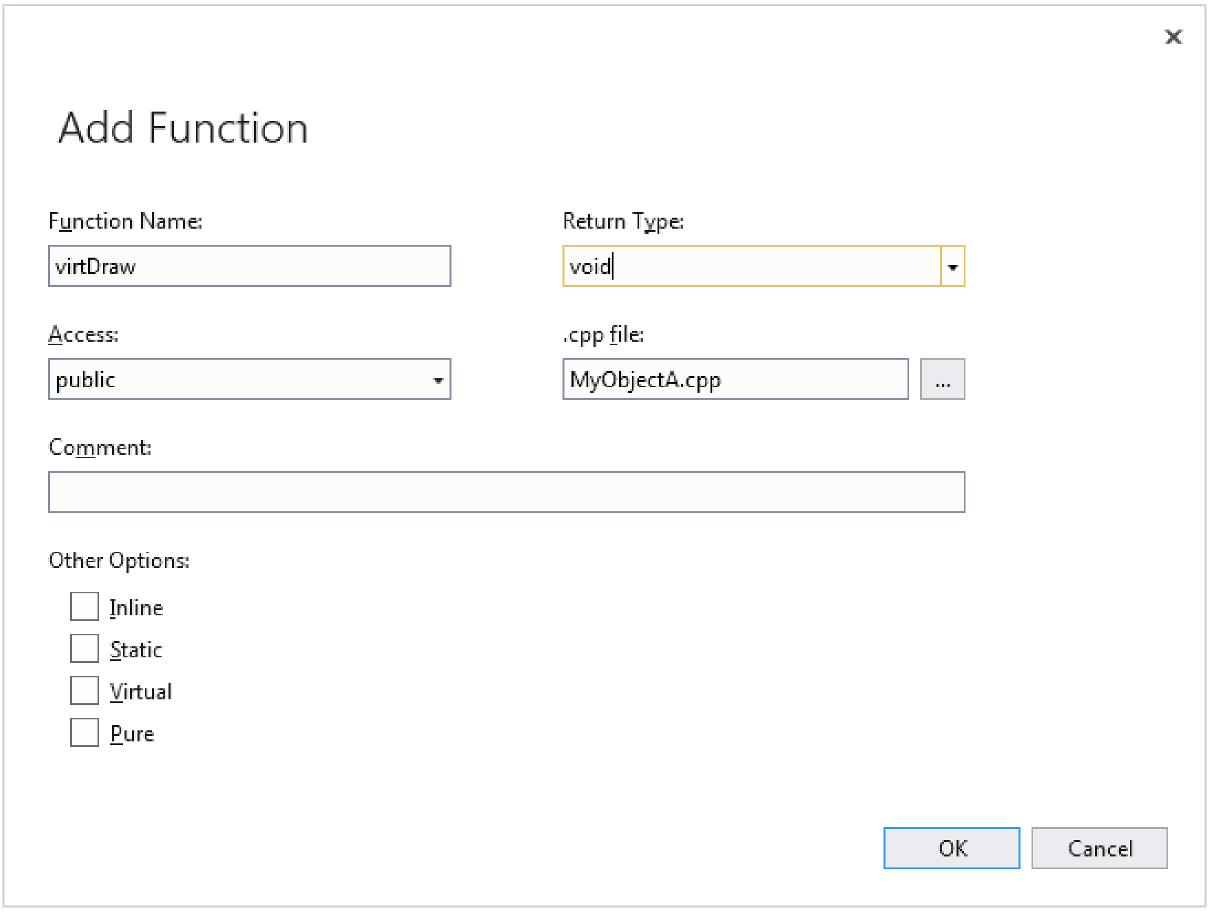
Example: If you wanted to create 3 objects you would just create an array of size 3 and set the three pointers to point to the new objects. Note that if we created multiple objects at the moment they would be in the same place, so it would be pointless.

Note that you MUST use `new` (not malloc()) to create these objects since `destroyOldObjects()` will use delete on them for you. DO NOT USE MALLOC()!!!

Build and test your program and it should look like this, showing the new object:

Add a virtDraw() function

Add a function called virtDraw() with no parameters and void return type. (Right click on the class in Class View and choose “Add” and “Function”.)



Function Name: virtDraw

Return Type: void

Access: public

.cpp file: MyObjectA.cpp

Comment:

Other Options:

- [ ] Inline
- [ ] Static
- [ ] Virtual
- [ ] Pure

Again this will add the function declaration to the header file and the implementation/definition to the .cpp file:

```
void MyObjectA::virtDraw()
{
	// TODO: Add your implementation code here.
}
```

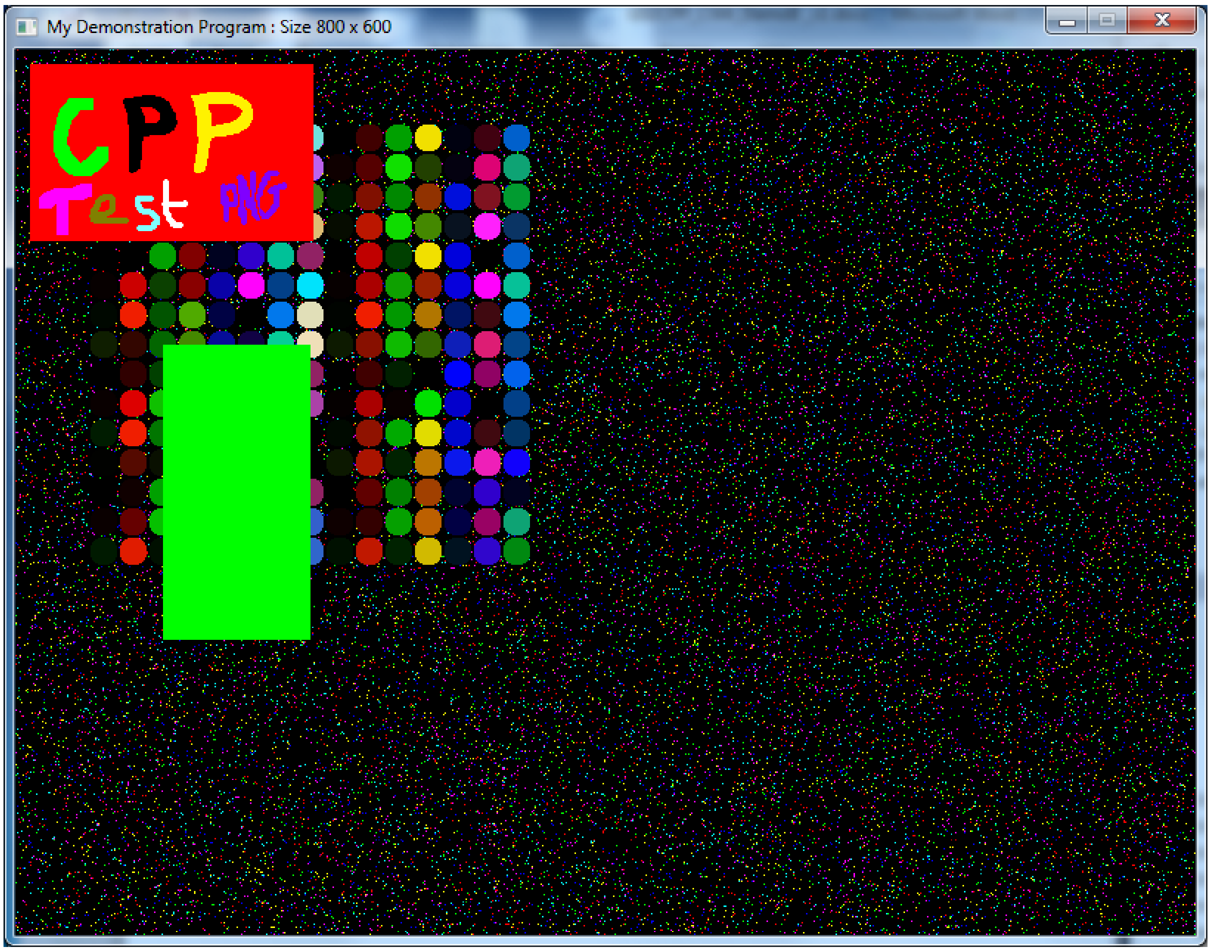
We want to use some methods of BaseEngine so first include the header file at the top of your .cpp file for your object:

```
	#include "BaseEngine.h"
```

Now add an implementation of the Draw() function as follows:

```
void MyObjectA::virtDraw()
{
	getEngine()->drawForegroundRectangle(
		m_iCurrentScreenX, m_iCurrentScreenY,
		m_iCurrentScreenX + m_iDrawWidth - 1,
		m_iCurrentScreenY + m_iDrawHeight - 1,
		0x00ff00);
}
```

Run the program now and test it – you should see that the colour of the object has changed.



It is important to ensure that you only draw within the region that you specified by various variables. The drawing region is specified by:

The top left corner has the coordinates:

```
X:   m_iCurrentScreenX + m_iStartDrawPosX
Y:   m_iCurrentScreenY + m_iStartDrawPosY
```

The bottom right corner has the coordinates:

```
X:   m_iCurrentScreenX + m_iStartDrawPosX + m_iDrawWidth
Y:   m_iCurrentScreenY + m_iStartDrawPosY + m_iDrawHeight
```

The only difference between making the points the top left or centre of the object is what values `m_iStartDrawPosX` and `m_iStartDrawPosY` are set to. In this case, we set the start draw position to `0,0` so the `CurrentScreen` values specify the top left corner. If you want to make the `CurrentScreen` values specify the middle of the object then instead you could set `m_iStartDrawPosX` to `-m_iDrawWidth/2`, and similarly for `m_iStartDrawPosY`. In other words, the `StartDrawPos` allows you to change the drawing of the object relative to the logical position of the object on the screen. If you don't need to do this then you can always set the `StartDrawPos` values to `0`, but will have to remember that the position of the object is for the top left corner of the object.

Knowing this, the following code draws a rectangle filling the whole drawing area:

```
getEngine()->drawForegroundRectangle(
       m_iCurrentScreenX, m_iCurrentScreenY,
       m_iCurrentScreenX + m_iDrawWidth - 1,
       m_iCurrentScreenY + m_iDrawHeight - 1,
       0x00ff00);
```

- The `-1` offset values are needed, because, for example, a rectangle of width `100`, with the left side at position `0`, would fill values from `0` to `99` (i.e. 100 pixels).
- The `0xff00` is a green colour, as for the background colours in demo tutorial A.
- `drawForegroundRectangle()` means to draw the rectangle to the foreground. There is also a Background version of the function. Please review Coursework Lab A if you cannot remember the difference between the foreground and the background. Moving objects should be drawn to the foreground so that they can be 'undrawn' from their old positions when they move.
- `getEngine()` retrieves a pointer to the `BaseEngine` object. In the constructor you took a pointer of this type and passed it to the base class constructor. The base class constructor stored that pointer for you. When you call `getEngine()` you are retrieving the pointer which was stored. In this way you can call a function which is on the `BaseEngine` class (i.e. `drawForegroundRectangle`) even when you are in the `DisplayableObject` subclass.

The area to draw within is defined using the following equations, so the values of `m_iCurrentScreenX` and `m_iCurrentScreenY` are stored and this is the area of the screen which will be redrawn when the object moves, removing it from its old location:

```
X from        m_iCurrentScreenX + m_iStartDrawPosX
To            m_iCurrentScreenX + m_iStartDrawPosX + m_iDrawWidth
Y from        m_iCurrentScreenY + m_iStartDrawPosY
To            m_iCurrentScreenY + m_iStartDrawPosY + m_iDrawHeight
```

These variables tell the framework where your object is and how big it is. You can set these variables to whatever you want, but you must not draw outside of this area.

Making the object move

To move objects you need to implement their virtDoUpdate() methods.

Add a new function to MyObjectA called virtDoUpdate(int iCurrentTime), with return type void and one parameter, of type int, with the name iCurrentTime. This parameter tells the object what the time is, so that it can alter how far it moves depending upon how long it was since it was last asked.

You should then have this code generated:

```
void MyObjectA::virtDoUpdate(int iCurrentTime)
{
	// TODO: Add your implementation code here.
}
```

The purpose of this function is to update the CurrentScreenX and CurrentScreenY variables, to change where the object will be drawn.

Add the following implementation for the function:

```
void MyObjectA::virtDoUpdate(int iCurrentTime)
{
	// Change position if player presses a key
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_UP))
		m_iCurrentScreenY -= 2;
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_DOWN))
		m_iCurrentScreenY += 2;
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_LEFT))
		m_iCurrentScreenX -= 2;
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_RIGHT))
		m_iCurrentScreenX += 2;

	// Ensure that the objects get redrawn on the display
	redrawDisplay();
}
```

Importantly, if you change any values you must call redrawDisplay() at the end of this function. This will ensure that the virtDraw() function is called to draw the object in its new position. It will also ensure that the object is 'undrawn' from its old position.

Compile and test the program, trying to move the object using the cursor keys.

This example illustrates how you can check whether a key is currently pressed. You saw in the previous lab that you can implement a function which is called when a key is pressed. Instead this function will check whether a key is already pressed down. For example, if a key is pressed twice then the onKeyDown function would get called twice. On the other hand this function lets you check at any time whether the key is currently pressed down or not, not how many times it has been pressed.

These functions check whether the cursor keys are pressed. If a key is pressed then it changes the position of the object by 2 pixels.

At the moment you can move the object off the edge of the screen (momentarily; it will probably crash). You can add code to stop this quite easily, as show below:

```
void MyObjectA::virtDoUpdate(int iCurrentTime)
{
	// Change position if player presses a key
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_UP))
		m_iCurrentScreenY -= 2;
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_DOWN))
		m_iCurrentScreenY += 2;
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_LEFT))
		m_iCurrentScreenX -= 2;
	if (getEngine()->isKeyPressed(SDLK_RIGHT))
		m_iCurrentScreenX += 2;

	if (m_iCurrentScreenX < 0)
		m_iCurrentScreenX = 0;
	if (m_iCurrentScreenX >= getEngine()->getWindowWidth() - m_iDrawWidth)
		m_iCurrentScreenX = getEngine()->getWindowWidth() - m_iDrawWidth;
	if (m_iCurrentScreenY < 0)
		m_iCurrentScreenY = 0;
	if (m_iCurrentScreenY >= getEngine()->getWindowHeight() - m_iDrawHeight)
		m_iCurrentScreenY = getEngine()->getWindowHeight() - m_iDrawHeight;

	// Ensure that the objects get redrawn on the display
	this->redrawDisplay();
}
```

Again compile and execute this to test it.

That completes the tutorial on moving objects. You should now be able to do a lot of the requirements of the coursework part 3. Experiment with the samples to learn more.

What to do now:

Please try the various demos. You can do this by commenting in/out the relevant lines in `main()` in `mainfunction.cpp`. Ensure that only one is active at a time though, otherwise you will have two objects with the same name.

I suggest that you start with the SimpleDemo then the `BouncingBall` sample, then move on to MazeDemo when you understand the other demos. These demos give progressively more code to consider and more complex examples, building up to relatively complex programs. Using what you have learned you should be able to understand these.

If you want more of a challenge, the Dragging and Zooming demos show you how to do simple dragging and zooming/scrolling. Finally, for a much more complex challenge, try the PlayingCardsDemo – this is a lot more complex because you can not only drag cards and decks around, but also create and drag tokens – including dragging tokens which are on cards when you drag the cards.

I suggest to read the requirements for both parts 3 and 4 and to skim the FAQ on coursework parts 3 and 4 before starting on either coursework. Knowing what is coming up later may save you some time in the long run.