How to directly autoload classes with Composer?

The simplest way is to autoload each class separately. For this purpose, all we need to do is define the array of paths to the classes that we want to autoload in the `composer.json` file.

For example:

```
1   {
2     "autoload": {
3       "classmap": [
4         "path/to/FirstClass.php",
5         "path/to/SecondClass.php"
6       ]
7     }
8   }
```

Update the composer autoloader from the command line:

```
$ composer dump-autoload -o
```

Now, we have to include the autoloader at the top of our scripts (e.g., `index.php`):

```php
<?php
require "vendor/autoload.php";
```

In the same way that we autoload classes, we can autoload directories that contain classes also by using the `classmap` key of the autoload:

```
1   {
2     "autoload": {
3       "classmap": [
4         "path/to/FirstClass.php",
5         "path/to/directory"
6       ]
7     }
8   }
```

- In order to autoload directories we need to use namespaces.

As we can see, classmap autoloading is not much different than the long list of requires that we used to use in the older PHP scripts. Yet, the better way to autoload is by using the **PSR-4** standard.