What are access modifiers?

Access modifiers in Java helps to restrict the scope of a class, constructor, variable, method or data member.

Difference between public, private and protected?

Private:

* The methods or data members declared as private are accessible only within the class in which they are declared.
* Any other class of same package will not be able to access these members.

Protected:

The methods or data members declared as protected are accessible within same package or sub classes in different package.

Public:

* The public access modifier has the widest scope among all other access modifiers.
* Classes, methods or data members which are declared as public are accessible from everywhere in the program.