



,sdj

**List:**  
 1. an Order based collection  
 2. index based  
**ArrayList**  
**LinkedList**  
 3. Dynamic Array

**Set:**  
 can not have duplicate elements.

**Queue:**  
 FIFO

**Map:**  
 stores data into key and value pair format

**Iterator:**  
 to iterate the elements from a collection

#### Advantages of Collections?

1. it reduces programming effort
2. provides in-built methods and classes
3. Optimized/highly performance
4. Increase productivity
5. Reduce Operational Time
6. Interoperability

**Common Methods:**  
 1. add  
 2. addAll  
 3. remove  
 4. removeAll  
 5. size()  
 6. clear()  
 7. contains()  
 8. containsAll()  
 9. retain()  
 10. retainAll()

**Common Exceptions:**  
**NullPointerException**  
**ClassCastException**  
**IllegalArgumentException**  
**IllegalStateException**  
**UnsupportedOperationException**

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When multiple threads are working on the same data, and the value of our data is changing, that scenario is not thread-safe and we will get inconsistent results.

When a thread is already working on an object and preventing another thread from working on the same object, this process is called Thread-Safety.

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Collection	Ordering	Random Access	Key-Value	Duplicate Elements	Null Element	Thread Safety
ArrayList	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
LinkedList	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
HashSet	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
TreeSet	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
HashMap	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
TreeMap	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Vector	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Hashtable	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Properties	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Stack	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
CopyOnWriteArrayList	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
ConcurrentHashMap	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
CopyOnWriteArraySet	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓

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# 1. ArrayList(mummy)

## ✓ Advantages

- Fast random access (index-based access is O(1))
- Maintains insertion order
- Allows duplicate elements
- Very commonly used and simple

## ✗ Disadvantages

- Slow insertion/deletion in the middle (shifting elements)
- Not thread-safe

- Expansion causes array copy overhead

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Shopping cart items (access by index, frequent reads)
  2. Storing student names in order of admission
- 

## ✓ 2. LinkedList

### ✓ Advantages

- Fast insertion/deletion at beginning or middle
- Maintains insertion order
- Can be used as a queue or stack

### ✗ Disadvantages

- Slow random access ( $O(n)$ )
- More memory due to storing previous/next references
- Not thread-safe

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Browser history navigation (next → previous)
  2. Customer service queue
- 

## ✓ 3. HashSet

### ✓ Advantages

- Very fast operations (add, remove, search =  $O(1)$ )
- Automatically removes duplicates
- Good for membership checks

### ✗ Disadvantages

- No ordering
- Allows only one null
- Not thread-safe

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Unique usernames in an application
  2. Tracking visited URLs to avoid processing duplicates
-



## 4. TreeSet

### ✓ Advantages

- Stores elements in sorted order
- No duplicates
- Useful for sorted data retrieval

### ✗ Disadvantages

- Slower than HashSet (operations  $O(\log n)$ )
- No null values allowed
- Not thread-safe

### ★ Real-world examples

1. Leaderboard scores sorted automatically
  2. Sorted list of employee IDs
- 



## 5. HashMap

### ✓ Advantages

- Very fast ( $O(1)$  average) key-value retrieval
- Allows one null key and multiple null values
- Flexible and widely used

### ✗ Disadvantages

- No ordering
- Not thread-safe
- Poor handling in concurrent environment without sync

### ★ Real-world examples

1. Storing employeeId → employeeDetails
  2. Caching configurations (key → value)
- 



## 6. TreeMap

### ✓ Advantages

- Maintains sorted keys
- Good for range queries (headMap, tailMap)

## ✖ Disadvantages

- Slower than HashMap ( $O(\log n)$ )
- No null keys allowed
- Not thread-safe

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Dictionary word → meaning (words sorted alphabetically)
  2. Stock price history sorted by date
- 

## ✓ 7. Vector

### ✓ Advantages

- Thread-safe (synchronized methods)
- Maintains order
- Supports random access

## ✖ Disadvantages

- Slower due to synchronization
- Legacy class (not recommended)

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Legacy enterprise apps where Vector was used earlier
  2. Multi-threaded environment requiring dynamic arrays (old code)
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## ✓ 8. Hashtable

### ✓ Advantages

- Thread-safe
- No null keys/values
- Good for legacy concurrent applications

## ✖ Disadvantages

- Slow because fully synchronized
- Legacy class
- No null support

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Old banking applications using Hashtable for thread safety
  2. Storing configuration parameters in old systems
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## ✓ 9. Properties

### ✓ Advantages

- Stores configuration in key-value (string → string)
- Can read from .properties files easily
- Easy to load with Properties.load()

### ✗ Disadvantages

- Only String key/value
- Not suitable for large structured data

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Reading database config (url, username, password)
  2. Application settings like timeout, locale
- 

## ✓ 10. Stack

### ✓ Advantages

- LIFO (Last-In-First-Out) structure
- Easy push/pop

### ✗ Disadvantages

- Synchronized → slow
- Legacy (use Deque instead)

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Undo/Redo operations in editors
  2. Backtracking algorithms (DFS)
- 

## ✓ 11. CopyOnWriteArrayList

### ✓ Advantages

- Thread-safe without synchronization blocking

- Best for read-heavy concurrent applications
- No ConcurrentModificationException

## ✗ Disadvantages

- Very costly on write (copy entire list)
- Not for frequent updates

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Displaying contacts list in WhatsApp (more reads, fewer edits)
  2. Caching read-only configurations
- 

## ✓ 12. ConcurrentHashMap

### ✓ Advantages

- Highly efficient thread-safe map
- No full-locking (segment-level locking)
- Very fast in multi-threaded apps

## ✗ Disadvantages

- No null keys/values
- Slightly more complicated internal structure

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Storing user sessions in high-traffic applications
  2. Real-time dashboards requiring concurrent updates
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## ✓ 13. CopyOnWriteArrayList

### ✓ Advantages

- Thread-safe
- No duplicates
- Best for read-mostly operations

## ✗ Disadvantages

- Slow writes
- Uses more memory

## ★ Real-world examples

1. Unique logged-in user tracking in multi-threaded apps
2. Subscription lists (listeners) where reads >> writes
3. ,khjg

## LinkedHashSet

### ✓ Advantages

- Maintains insertion order
- Faster than TreeSet
- No duplicates allowed

### ✗ Disadvantages

- Slightly slower than HashSet
- Uses more memory (because it keeps a linked list)

## 碛 Real World Example

- Maintaining unique visitors list in the order they visited  
e.g., ["Nisha", "Rahul", "Sneha"]

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# 7. PriorityQueue

### ✓ Advantages

- Always returns highest or lowest priority element first
- Good for algorithms like Dijkstra, CPU scheduling

### ✗ Disadvantages

- No random access
- Does not allow null
- Not sorted list — only head has priority

## 碛 Real World Example

- Hospital emergency room queue (critical patients first)
- CPU task scheduling (high-priority tasks first)

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# 9. LinkedHashMap

## ✓ Advantages

- Maintains insertion order
- Faster iteration than HashMap
- Good for building LRU cache

## ✗ Disadvantages

- Slower than HashMap
- More memory usage (doubly linked list)

## 碛 Real World Example

- Building LRU Cache
- Storing form data in order fields were entered

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# 12. Arrays (Utility Class)

## ✓ Advantages

- Fast and simple
- Good performance
- Fixed-size, memory efficient

## ✗ Disadvantages

- Cannot grow dynamically
- No built-in functions like sorted, insert at specific position

## 碛 Real World Example

- Fixed size data storage (like 12 months of a year)

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# ★ 13. Collections Utility Class

## ✓ Advantages

- Provides helper methods
  - sort(), reverse(), shuffle(), min(), max()

## ✗ Disadvantages

- Works only on Collections, not Maps
- Static methods cannot be overridden

## 磋 Real World Example

- Sorting list of student marks
- Finding maximum salary from a list

## Q1. What is the Java Collections Framework?

Answer:

It is a unified architecture to store and manipulate groups of objects. It includes interfaces (List, Set, Map, Queue), their implementations, and algorithms.

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## Q2. Difference between ArrayList and LinkedList

Feature	ArrayList	LinkedList
Data structure	Dynamic array	Doubly linked list
Access	Fast ( $O(1)$ )	Slow ( $O(n)$ )
Insert/Delete	Slow	Fast
Memory	Less	More

FIS use case:  
Transaction logs → ArrayList (read-heavy)

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## Q3. Difference between HashMap and Hashtable

Feature	HashMap	Hashtable
Thread-safe	✗ No	✓ Yes
Null key/value	Allowed	Not allowed
Performance	Faster	Slower
Legacy	No	Yes

FIS prefers ConcurrentHashMap instead.

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## Q4. Why ConcurrentHashMap is better than HashMap in multithreading?

Answer:

- Segment-level locking (Java 7) / bucket-level locking (Java 8+)
- Allows multiple threads to read/write concurrently
- No ConcurrentModificationException

FIS relevance: High-volume transaction systems.

## Key Reasons:

1. Thread-safe without locking the entire map
2. Better performance than synchronized collections

3. No ConcurrentModificationException
  4. Allows concurrent reads and writes
  5. Atomic operations like putIfAbsent()
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## Q5. Difference between List, Set, and Map

**Interface   Allows duplicates   Ordered**

List	Yes	Yes
Set	No	No
Map	Keys unique	No

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## INTERMEDIATE → ADVANCED (FIS-Style)

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## Q6. How does HashMap work internally?

Answer:

- Uses hashing
  - Stores entries in buckets
  - Uses LinkedList → Red-Black Tree when collisions exceed threshold (Java 8+)
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## Q7. What is load factor in HashMap?

Answer:

Load factor = 0.75 (default)

Controls resize threshold for performance vs memory tradeoff.

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## Q8. Can we use a custom object as a key in HashMap?

Answer:

Yes, but must override equals() and hashCode() correctly.

Why important at FIS?

Incorrect hashing → duplicate financial records.

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## Q9. Difference between fail-fast and fail-safe iterators

Fail-Fast	Fail-Safe
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Throws exception	No exception
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Works on original collection	Works on copy
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Example: ArrayList	Example: ConcurrentHashMap
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## **Q10. What is Collections.synchronizedMap() vs ConcurrentHashMap?**

Answer:

- `synchronizedMap()` → locks entire map
- `ConcurrentHashMap` → partial locking

顯 `ConcurrentHashMap` is preferred in enterprise apps

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## **REAL-WORLD / SCENARIO QUESTIONS (FIS FAVORITES)**

### **Q11. Which collection will you use for transaction de-duplication?**

Answer:

Use HashSet or ConcurrentHashMap

Ensures **uniqueness of transaction IDs**

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### **Q12. How do you sort a list of transactions by amount?**

```
transactions.sort(Comparator.comparing(Transaction::getAmount));
```

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### **Q13. How do you make a collection thread-safe?**

Answer:

- `Collections.synchronizedList()`
  - `CopyOnWriteArrayList`
  - `ConcurrentHashMap`
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### **Q14. Difference between Comparable and Comparator**

<b>Comparable</b>	<b>Comparator</b>
Natural ordering	Custom ordering
<code>compareTo()</code>	<code>compare()</code>
One logic	Multiple logics

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### **Q15. What is CopyOnWriteArrayList?**

Answer:

- Thread-safe
- Creates a new copy on write
- Best for read-heavy systems

FIS Example:

Reference data, configuration caches

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## ADVANCED (Bonus – Stand Out)

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### Q16. How does Java 8 improve collections?

- Stream API
  - Lambda expressions
  - Default methods
  - `forEach()`
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### Q17. How do you avoid memory leaks in collections?

Answer :

- Remove unused references
  - Use WeakHashMap
  - Avoid static collections
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### Q18. Which collection is best for high-frequency trading systems?

Answer:

ConcurrentHashMap, ArrayBlockingQueue, LinkedBlockingQueue

How to synchronize ArrayList in Java:

1. `Collections.synchronizedList()` - method - returns synchronized list
2. `copyOnWriteArrayList` - class - Thread Safe variant of ArrayList