1. **Describe the newly added features in Java 8?**

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| **Feature Name** | **Description** |
| Lambda expression | A function that can be shared or referred to as an object. |
| Functional Interfaces | Single abstract method interface. |
| Method References | Uses function as a parameter to invoke a method. |
| Default method | It provides an implementation of methods within interfaces enabling 'Interface evolution' facilities. |
| Stream API | Abstract layer that provides pipeline processing of the data. |
| Date Time API | New improved joda-time inspired APIs to overcome the drawbacks in previous versions |
| Optional | Wrapper class to check the null values and helps in further processing based on the value. |

1. **In which programming paradigm Java 8 falls?**

* Object-oriented programming language.
* Functional programming language.
* Procedural programming language.
* Logic programming language.

### What are the significant advantages of Java 8?

* Compact, readable, and reusable code.
* Less boilerplate code.
* Parallel operations and execution.
* Can be ported across operating systems.
* High stability.
* Stable environment.
* Adequate support

### What are functional or SAM interfaces?

Functional Interfaces are an interface with only one abstract method. Due to which it is also known as the Single Abstract Method (SAM) interface. It is known as a functional interface because it wraps a function as an interface or in other words a function is represented by a single abstract method of the interface.

Functional interfaces can have any number of default, static, and overridden methods. For declaring Functional Interfaces @FunctionalInterface annotation is optional to use. If this annotation is used for interfaces with more than one abstract method, it will generate a compiler error.

### Can a functional interface extend/inherit another interface?

A functional interface cannot extend another interface with abstract methods as it will void the rule of one abstract method per functional interface.

### What is the default method, and why is it required?

A method in the interface that has a predefined body is known as the default method. It uses the keyword default. default methods were introduced in Java 8 to have 'Backward Compatibility in case JDK modifies any interfaces. In case a new abstract method is added to the interface, all classes implementing the interface will break and will have to implement the new method. With default methods, there will not be any impact on the interface implementing classes. default methods can be overridden if needed in the implementation. Also, it does not qualify as synchronized or final.

### What are static methods in Interfaces?

Static methods, which contains method implementation is owned by the interface and is invoked using the name of the interface, it is suitable for defining the utility methods and cannot be overridden.

### What are some standard Java pre-defined functional interfaces?

Some of the famous pre-defined functional interfaces from previous Java versions are Runnable, Callable, Comparator, and Comparable. While Java 8 introduces functional interfaces like Supplier, Consumer, Predicate, etc. Please refer to the java.util.function doc for other predefined functional interfaces and its description introduced in Java 8.

**Runnable:** use to execute the instances of a class over another thread with no arguments and no return value.

**Callable:** use to execute the instances of a class over another thread with no arguments and it either returns a value or throws an exception.

**Comparator:** use to sort different objects in a user-defined order

**Comparable:** use to sort objects in the natural sort order

### What are the various categories of pre-defined function interfaces?

**Function:** To transform arguments in returnable value.

**Predicate:** To perform a test and return a Boolean value.

**Consumer:** Accept arguments but do not return any values.

**Supplier:** Do not accept any arguments but return a value.

**Operator:** Perform a reduction type operation that accepts the same input types.

### What is the lambda expression in Java and How does a lambda expression relate to a functional interface?

Lambda expression is a type of function without a name. It may or may not have results and parameters. It is known as an anonymous function as it does not have type information by itself. It is executed on-demand. It is beneficial in iterating, filtering, and extracting data from a collection.

As lambda expressions are similar to anonymous functions, they can only be applied to the single abstract method of Functional Interface. It will infer the return type, type, and several arguments from the signature of the abstract method of functional interface.

### What is the basic structure/syntax of a lambda expression?

FunctionalInterface fi = (String name) -> {

System.out.println("Hello "+name);

**return** "Hello "+name;

}

Lambda expression can be divided into three distinct parts as below:

1. List of Arguments/Params:

(String name)

A list of params is passed in () round brackets. It can have zero or more params. Declaring the type of parameter is optional and can be inferred for the context.

2. Arrow Token:

->   
Arrow token is known as the lambda arrow operator. It is used to separate the parameters from the body, or it points the list of arguments to the body. 3. Expression/Body:

{

System.out.println("Hello "+name);

**return** "Hello "+name;

}

A body can have expressions or statements. {} curly braces are only required when there is more than one line. In one statement, the return type is the same as the return type of the statement. In other cases, the return type is either inferred by the return keyword or void if nothing is returned.

### What are the features of a lambda expression?

Below are the two significant features of the methods that are defined as the lambda expressions:

* Lambda expressions can be passed as a parameter to another method.
* Lambda expressions can be standalone without belonging to any class.

### What is a type interface?

Type interface is available even in earlier versions of Java. It is used to infer the type of argument by the compiler at the compile time by looking at method invocation and corresponding declaration.

### In Java 8, what is Method Reference?

Method reference is a compact way of referring to a method of functional interface. It is used to refer to a method without invoking it. :: (double colon) is used for describing the method reference. The syntax is class::methodName

For e.g.:

Integer::parseInt(str) \\ method reference

str -> Integer.ParseInt(str); \\ equivalent lambda

### What does the String::ValueOf expression mean?

It is a static method reference to method Valueof() of class String. It will return the string representation of the argument passed.

### What is an Optional class?

Optional is a container type which may or may not contain value i.e. zero(null) or one(not-null) value. It is part of java.util package. There are pre-defined methods like isPresent(), which returns true if the value is present or else false and the method get(), which will return the value if it is present.

### What are the advantages of using the Optional class?

Below are the main advantage of using the Optional class:

It encapsulates optional values, i.e., null or not-null values, which helps in avoiding null checks, which results in better, readable, and robust code It acts as a wrapper around the object and returns an object instead of a value, which can be used to avoid run-time NullPointerExceptions.

### What are Java 8 streams?

A stream is an abstraction to express data processing queries in a declarative way.

A Stream, which represents a sequence of data objects & series of operations on that data is a data pipeline that is not related to Java I/O Streams does not hold any data permanently.  
The key interface is java.util.stream.Stream<T>. It accepts Functional Interfaces so that lambdas can be passed. Streams support a fluent interface or chaining.

### What are the main components of a Stream?

Components of the stream are:

* A data source
* Set of Intermediate Operations to process the data source
* Single Terminal Operation that produces the result

### What are the sources of data objects a Stream can process?

A Stream can process the following data:

* A collection of an Array.
* An I/O channel or an input device.
* A reactive source (e.g., comments in social media or tweets/re-tweets)
* A stream generator function or a static factory.

### What are Intermediate and Terminal operations?

**Intermediate Operations:**

* Process the stream elements.
* Typically transforms a stream into another stream.
* Are lazy, i.e., not executed till a terminal operation is invoked.
* Does internal iteration of all source elements.
* Any number of operations can be chained in the processing pipeline.
* Operations are applied as per the defined order.
* Intermediate operations are mostly lambda functions.

**Terminal Operations:**

* Kick-starts the Stream pipeline.
* used to collect the processed Stream data.

**int** count = Stream.of(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

.filter(i -> i <4) // Intermediate Operation filter

.count(); // Terminal Operation count

### What are the most commonly used Intermediate operations?

**Filter(Predicate<T>)** - Allows selective processing of Stream elements. It returns elements that are satisfying the supplied condition by the predicate.

**map(Funtion<T, R>)** - Returns a new Stream, transforming each of the elements by applying the supplied mapper function.= sorted() - Sorts the input elements and then passes them to the next stage.

**distinct()** - Only pass on elements to the next stage, not passed yet.

**limit(long maxsize)** - Limit the stream size to maxsize.

**skip(long start)** - Skip the initial elements till the start.

**peek(Consumer)** - Apply a consumer without modification to the stream.

**flatMap(mapper)** - Transform each element to a stream of its constituent elements and flatten all the streams into a single stream.

### What is the most common type of Terminal operations?

* collect() - Collects single result from all elements of the stream sequence.
* reduce() - Produces a single result from all elements of the stream sequence
* count() - Returns the number of elements on the stream.
* min() - Returns the min element from the stream.
* max() - Returns the max element from the stream.
* Search/Query operations
  + anyMatch() , noneMatch() , allMatch() , ... - Short-circuiting operations.
  + Takes a Predicate as input for the match condition.
  + Stream processing will be stopped, as and when the result can be determined.
* Iterative operations
  + forEach() - Useful to do something with each of the Stream elements. It accepts a consumer.
  + forEachOrdered() - It is helpful to maintain order in parallel streams.

1. **What is the difference between findFirst() and findAny()?**

| **findFirst()** | **findAny()** |
| --- | --- |
| Returns the first element in the Stream | Return any element from the Stream |
| Deterministic in nature | Non-deterministic in nature |

1. **How are Collections different from Stream?**

Collections are the source for the Stream. Java 8 collection API is enhanced with the default methods returning Stream<T> from the collections.

| **Collections** | **Streams** |
| --- | --- |
| Data structure holds all the data elements | No data is stored. Have the capacity to process an infinite number of elements on demand |
| External Iteration | Internal Iteration |
| Can be processed any number of times | Traversed only once |
| Elements are easy to access | No direct way of accessing specific elements |
| Is a data store | Is an API to process the data |

### What is the feature of the new Date and Time API in Java 8?

* Immutable classes and Thread-safe
* Timezone support
* Fluent methods for object creation and arithmetic
* Addresses I18N issue for earlier APIs
* Influenced by popular joda-time package
* All packages are based on the ISO-8601 calendar system

### What are the important packages for the new Data and Time API?

* java.time
  + dates
  + times
  + Instants
  + durations
  + time-zones
  + periods
* Java.time.format
* Java.time.temporal
* java.time.zone

### Explain with example, LocalDate, LocalTime, and LocalDateTime APIs.

**LocalDate**

* Date with no time component
* Default format - yyyy-MM-dd (2020-02-20)
* LocalDate today = LocalDate.now();  // gives today’s date
* LocalDate aDate = LocalDate.of(2011, 12, 30); //(year, month, date)

**LocalTime**

* Time with no date with nanosecond precision
* Default format - hh:mm:ss:zzz (12:06:03.015) nanosecond is optional
* LocalTime now = LocalTime.now();  // gives time now
* LocalTime aTime2 = LocalTime.of(18, 20, 30); // (hours, min, sec)

**LocalDateTime**

* Holds both Date and Time
* Default format - yyyy-MM-dd-HH-mm-ss.zzz (2020-02-20T12:06:03.015)
* LocalDateTime timestamp = LocalDateTime.now(); // gives timestamp now
* //(year, month, date, hours, min, sec)
* LocalDateTime dt1 = LocalDateTime.of(2011, 12, 30, 18, 20, 30);