Building Blocks

The main() Method

The main( ) method

- Java program starts by executing the `main()` method:

`public` `static` `void` main(`String[] args`)

access modifier

no return type

method belongs to the class
(not to the instance)

input parameters
(array of strings)
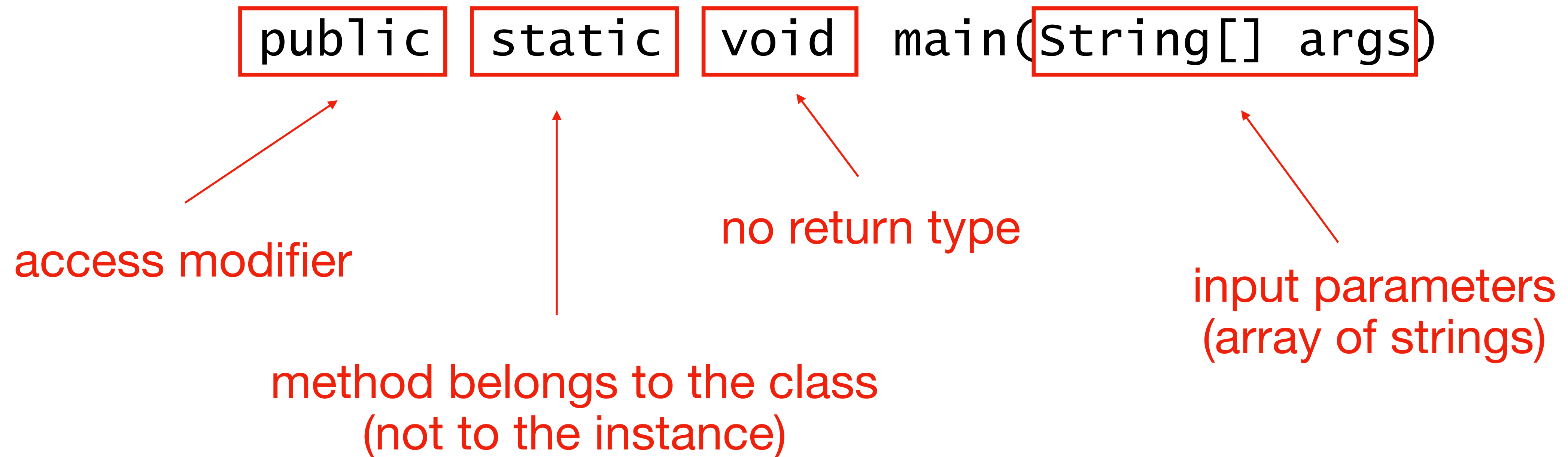
```java
// there are other permissible ways to write the main method:

public static void main(String[] args) { }
public static void main(String[] someOtherSillyName) { }
public static void main(String args[]) { }
public static void main(String... args) { }
public final static void main(final String[] args) { }
static public void main(String[] args) { }

// N.B. the return type must follow the name of the method!
```

```
public class Names {

  public static void main(String[] args) {

    System.out.println("First name: " + args[0]); // arrays count from 0

    System.out.println("Last name: " + args[1]);

  }

}
```

javac Names.java   -> Names.class

java Names John Wayne

  First name: John

  Last name: Wayne

java Names John

  [index out of bounds exception]

java Names John D. Wayne

  First name: John

  Second name: D.

java Names "John D." Wayne

  First name: John D.

  Second name: Wayne