

Java: Class and Object

1. What is a Class?

A **class** is a blueprint or template that defines the structure (attributes) and behavior (methods) of objects. It provides a way to group related data and functions together.

- A **class** doesn't consume memory until objects are created from it.
- It is defined using the **class** keyword.

Syntax:

```
class ClassName {  
    // Attributes (fields)  
    DataType attributeName;  
  
    // Methods (behavior)  
    returnType methodName(parameters) {  
        // Method body  
    }  
}
```

Example:

```
class Car {  
    // Attributes  
    String brand;  
    int speed;  
  
    // Constructor  
    Car(String brand, int speed) {  
        this.brand = brand;  
        this.speed = speed;  
    }  
  
    // Method  
    void displayDetails() {  
        System.out.println("Brand: " + brand + ", Speed: " + speed + "  
km/h");  
    }  
}
```

```
}
```

2. What is an Object?

An **object** is an instance of a class that represents a real-world entity. It has:

- **State:** Defined by the values of its attributes.
- **Behavior:** Defined by the methods of the class.

Syntax:

```
ClassName objectName = new ClassName(parameters);
```

Example:

```
public class Main {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        // Creating an object of the Car class
        Car myCar = new Car("Tesla", 200);
        myCar.displayDetails(); // Output: Brand: Tesla, Speed: 200
    }
}
```

Class vs. Object

Aspect	Class	Object
Definition	A blueprint or template for creating objects.	An instance of a class.
Memory	Does not occupy memory.	Occupies memory when created.
Usage	Defines attributes and behaviors.	Represents specific attributes and behaviors.
Example	<pre>class Car {}</pre>	<pre>Car myCar = new Car();</pre>

Key Concepts

Attributes (Fields):

- Represent the data or state of the object.
- Example: `String brand, int speed`.

Methods:

- Define the behavior or actions of the object.
- Example: `void displayDetails()`.

Constructor:

- A special method used to initialize the attributes of an object.

Example:

```
Car(String brand, int speed) {  
    this.brand = brand;  
    this.speed = speed;  
}
```

Memory Allocation:

- When an object is created, memory is allocated for its attributes in the heap.
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Best Practices

Use meaningful class names:

```
class Car {}    // Good  
class C {}      // Bad
```

1. Encapsulate data by marking attributes as `private` and providing getter and setter methods.
 2. Follow proper naming conventions for attributes and methods (`camelCase`).
 3. Always provide a default or parameterized constructor.
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Programming Practice

Program 1: Displaying the Details of a Student

```
class Student {
    String name;
    int rollNumber;
    double marks;

    // Constructor
    Student(String name, int rollNumber, double marks) {
        this.name = name;
        this.rollNumber = rollNumber;
        this.marks = marks;
    }

    // Method to display student details
    void displayDetails() {
        System.out.println("Name: " + name + ", Roll Number: " +
rollNumber + ", Marks: " + marks);
    }
}

public class Main {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Student student = new Student("Alice", 101, 89.5);
        student.displayDetails();    // Output: Name: Alice, Roll
Number: 101, Marks: 89.5
    }
}
```

Program 2: Travel Details

```
class TravelDetails {
    String fromCity, toCity;
    double distance;
```

```
// Constructor
TravelDetails(String fromCity, String toCity, double distance) {
    this.fromCity = fromCity;
    this.toCity = toCity;
    this.distance = distance;
}

// Method to display travel information
void displayTravelInfo() {
    System.out.println("Traveling from " + fromCity + " to " +
toCity + " covers " + distance + " km.");
}

}

public class Main {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        TravelDetails travel = new TravelDetails("Chennai",
"Bangalore", 345.6);
        travel.displayTravelInfo(); // Output: Traveling from Chennai
to Bangalore covers 345.6 km.
    }
}
```