

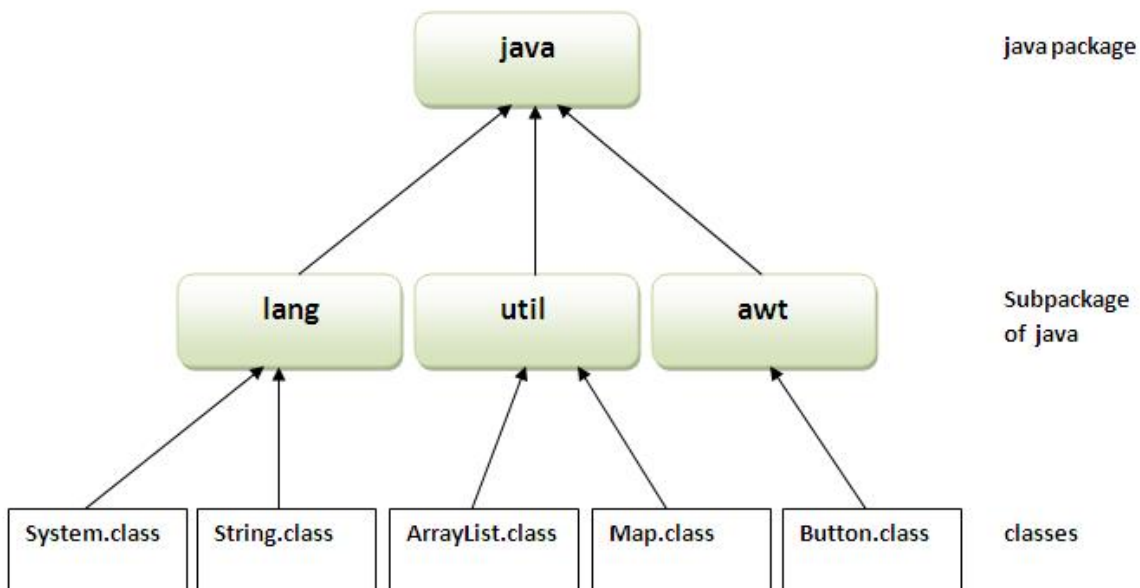
ICS4U – Java Packages

A **java package** is a group of similar types of classes, interfaces and sub-packages. Package in java can be categorized in two form, built-in package and user-defined package.

There are many built-in packages such as java, lang, awt, javax, swing, net, io, util, sql etc.

Advantage of Java Package

- 1) Java package is used to categorize the classes and interfaces so that they can be easily maintained.
- 2) Java package provides access protection.
- 3) Java package removes naming collision.



Simple example of a java package

```
//save as Simple.java
package mypack;
import java.awt.*;
public class Simple{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        System.out.println("Welcome to package");
    }
}
```

Eclipse: - this file will be saved in a file folder called "mypack". Any other classes/programs saved as "mypack" package will be saved in the same folder.

DrJava - the folder directory must be created by the user.

You must declare the package BEFORE any import statements. See example above.

How to access package from outside the package?

There are three ways to access the package from outside the package.

```
import java.awt.*;           // imports all the sub classes from the awt package
import java.awt.Button;      // imports only the "Button" class from the awt package
java.awt.Button b1 = new java.awt.Button;
// uses the Button class without having to import the awt package
```