

class

- collection of attributes and methods (functions)
 - attributes
 - characteristic of an entity
 - methods
 - function inside a class
- blueprint to create an object

object

- instance of a class
- memory allocated to store the class attributes
- characteristics
 - state: values of attributes
 - behavior: defined by methods in the class
 - identity: unique address

instantiation

* process of creating an object

attributes

- In Python, each object may have different attributes (even if objects are of the same class).
 - To attach an attribute to an object, use `setattr()`.
 - To retrieve attribute value, use `getattr()`.
 - To remove the attribute from object, use `delattr()`.
 - To see if object has a attribute, use `hasattr()`.

class methods

- function declared inside the class
- each method gets an implicit arg "self". It keeps address of the object on which the method is called.
- method types
 - initializer
 - method which initializes the object
 - gets called automatically/implicitly
 - facilitator
 - adds facility in the class
 - setter
 - used to set a new value to an attribute
 - also known as mutator
 - getter
 - used to get a value of an attribute

- also known as inspector
- de-initializer (delete)
 - used to de-initialize the object
 - gets called automatically/implicitly
- dunder methods
 - special methods to be written in class for special purposes.

inheritance

- also known as is-a or kind-of relationship
- the base class can be specified at the time of declaration with ()
- Inheritance types
 - single inheritance
 - there is only one base class and only one derived class
 - multi-level
 - there are multiple levels
 - a level will have one base and one derived class
 - a may have one direct and multiple indirect base class(es)
 - multiple
 - multiple base classes
 - one derived class
 - hierarchical
 - one base class and multiple derived classes
 - hybrid
 - combination of any two or more inheritance types is known as hybrid.

method overriding

- in inheritance scenario, when derived class uses method with same name as that of the base class
- used to change the behavior/implementation of base class method
- to override a method in derived class, use same name of the method as that of the base class

root class

- in python (3.0+), object is a root class
- in python, every class is a derived class of object (directly or indirectly)
- object class provides basic functionality like
 - converting any object to string (**str**)

Abstract base class (ABC)

- Sometimes developer of a class wants to ensure that all classes derived from the class must have certain functionality (like a contract).
- Such methods are declared as abstract methods (in base class). In Python, this is done using @abstractmethod decorator (from abc package). Usually, these methods are empty (unimplemented) in the base class.
- If a class contains at least one @abstractmethod, then the class must be inherited from ABC class (from abc package). The object of such abstract class cannot be created (it raise TypeError).

- The classes inherited from such abstract class must provide implementation of the abstract methods; otherwise derived class objects cannot be created.
- Note that abstract classes may have attributes and other methods.

Association

- represents associations of multiple classes
- types
 - aggregation
 - also known as has-a relationship
 - loose coupling / weak relationship
 - one entity can live without another entity
 - one object contains an object of another class
 - composition
 - also known as composed-of / part-of
 - tight coupling / strong relationship
 - one entity can not live without the other entity

Operator Overloading

- changing the default behavior of built-in operators
- the methods to be implemented in class are called as magic methods.
- comparison operators
 - $p1 > p2$: **gt**
 - $p1 < p2$: **lt**
 - $p1 \leq p2$: **le**
 - $p1 == p2$: **eq**
 - $p1 != p2$: **ne**
 - $p1 \geq p2$: **ge**
- mathematical operators
 - $p1 + p2$: **add**
 - $p1 - p2$: **sub**
 - $p1 * p2$: **mul**
 - $p1 / p2$: **truediv**
 - $p1 // p2$: **floordiv**
 - $p1 ** p2$: **pow**
 - $p1 \% p2$: **mod**