

Java

Inheritance

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Java-Course

Overview

1. Arrays

Multi-Dimensional Array

2. Inheritance

Inheritance

Constructor

Implicit Inheritance

3. Programming

Arrays

Array

An array is a data-type that can hold a **fixed number** of elements. An Element can be any simple data-type or object.

```
1 public static void main(String[] args) {  
2  
3     int[] intArray = new int[10];  
4     intArray[8] = 7; // assign 7 to the 9th element  
5     intArray[9] = 8; // assign 8 to the last element  
6  
7     System.out.println(intArray[8]); // prints: 7  
8 }  
9
```

You can access every element via an index. A n-element array has indexes from 0 to (n-1).

Array Initialization

You can initialize an array with a set of elements.

```
1 public static void main(String[] args) {  
2  
3     int[] intArray = {3, 2, 7};  
4  
5     System.out.println(intArray[0]); // prints: 3  
6     System.out.println(intArray[1]); // prints: 2  
7     System.out.println(intArray[2]); // prints: 7  
8 }  
9
```

Alternative Declaration

There two possible positions for the square brackets.

```
1 public static void main(String[] args) {  
2  
3     // version 1  
4     int[] intArray1 = new int[10];  
5  
6     // version 2  
7     int intArray2[] = new int[10];  
8 }  
9
```

2-Dimensional Array

Arrays work with more than one dimension. An m-dimensional array has m indexes for one element.

```
1 public static void main(String[] args) {  
2  
3     // an array with 100 elements  
4     int[][] intArray = new int[10][10];  
5  
6     intArray[0][0] = 0;  
7     intArray[0][9] = 9;  
8     intArray[9][9] = 99;  
9 }  
10
```

Assignment with Loops

Loops are often used to assign elements in arrays.

```
1  public static void main(String[] args) {  
2  
3      int[][] intArray = new int[10][10];  
4  
5      for(int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
6          for(int j = 0; j < 10; j++) {  
7              intArray[i][j] = i*10 + j;  
8          }  
9      }  
10 }  
11
```


Arrays with objects

Loops are often used to assign elements in arrays.

```
1  public static void main(String[] args) {  
2  
3      Student[][] studentArray = new Student[10][10];  
4  
5      for(int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
6          for(int j = 0; j < 10; j++) {  
7              intArray[i][j] = new Student();  
8          }  
9      }  
10 }  
11
```

Inheritance

Example

A school has students and teacher.

Every student has the following attributes:

- name
- age
- email
- lessons
- Name of his class

Every teacher has the following attributes:

- name
- age
- email
- subjects
- salary
- hours

They have the same subset of attributes:

- name
- age
- email

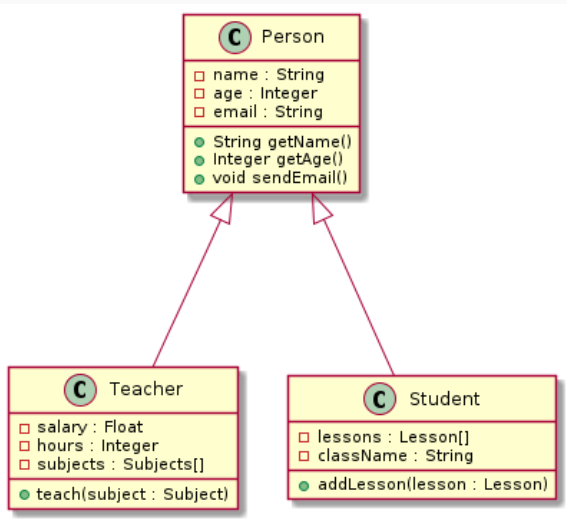
Why not define these attributes somewhere else and say these are part of a student and teacher?

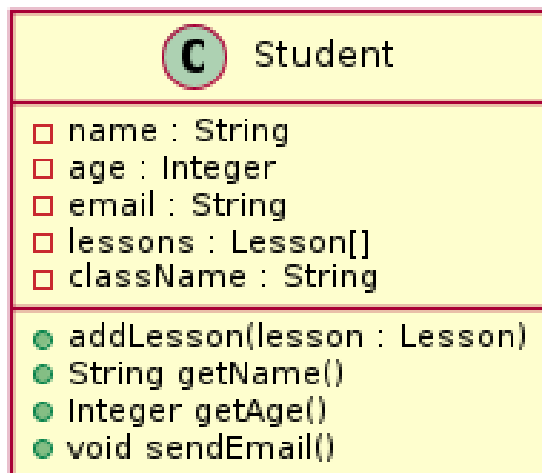
What is inheritance?

This is inheritance.

- basing an object or class upon another object or class
- creates an hierarchy of classes
- classes on top of the hierarchy are the **superclasses**
- classes below a **superclass** are called **subclasses**
- objects create from **superclasses** are called **parent objects**
- objects create from **subclasses** are called **child objects**

UML class diagram





A special Person

Our class *Student* is a kind of *Person* denoted by the keyword **extends**.

- *Student* is a **subclass** of the class *Person*
- *Person* is the **superclass** of the class *Student*

```
1 public class Student extends Person {  
2  
3 }  
4
```

As mentioned implicitly above a class can has multiple subclasses.
But a class can only inherit directly from one superclass.

Example

We have the classes: *School*, *Person* and *Student*. They will be used for every example in this section and they will grow over time.

```
1  public class Person {  
2  
3      private String name;  
4      private int age;  
5      private String email  
6  
7  
8      public void setEmail(String email) {  
9          this.email = email;  
10     }  
11  
12     public void sendEmail(String message){  
13         System.out.println("To: " this.email  
14                             + " \n" + message);  
15     }  
16 }  
17
```

Inherited Methods

The class *Student* also inherits all methods from the superclass *Person*.

```
1  public class School {
2
3      public static void main(String[] args) {
4
5          Student Student = new Student();
6
7          Student.setEmail("john@school.org");
8
9          Student.sendEmail("Hello");
10
11         // prints:  To: john@school.org
12         //           Hello
13     }
14 }
15
```

Override Methods

The method `sendEmail()` is now additionally defined in *Student*.

```
1 public class Student extends Person {  
2  
3     @Override  
4     public void sendEmail(String message){  
5         System.out.println("To: " + this.email + " \n" +  
6             "Dear student :" + message);  
7     }  
8 }  
9
```

@Override is an annotation. It helps the programmer to identify overwritten methods. It is not necessary for running the code but improves readability. What annotations else can we discuss in a future lesson.

Override Methods

Now the method `sendEmail()` defined in *Student* will be used instead of the method defined in the superclass *Person*.

```
1  public class School {  
2  
3      public static void main(String[] args) {  
4  
5          Student Student = new Student();  
6  
7          Student.setEmail("john@school.org");  
8  
9          Student.sendEmail("Hello");  
10         // prints:  To: john@school.org  
11         //           Dear student: Hello  
12     }  
13 }  
14
```

Super()

If we define a **constructor with arguments** in *Person* we have to define a constructor with the same list of arguments in every subclass.

```
1  public class Person {
2
3      private String name;
4      private int age;
5      private String email;
6
7      public Person(String name, int age, String email) {
8          this.name = name;
9          this.age = age;
10         this.email = email;
11     }
12
13     public void sendEmail(String message){
14         System.out.println("To: " this.email
15             + " \n" + message);
16     }
17 }
18
```

Super()

For the constructor in the subclass *Student* we can use `super()` to call the constructor from the superclass.

```
1 public class Student extends Person {  
2  
3     public Student(String name, int age, String email) {  
4         super(name, age, email);  
5     }  
6  
7     @Override  
8     public void sendEmail(String message){  
9         System.out.println("To: " + this.email + " \n" +  
10        "Dear student :" + message);  
11    }  
12 }  
13
```

Super() - Test

```
1  public class School {  
2  
3      public static void main(String[] args) {  
4          Student Student =  
5              new Student("John", 16, "john@school.org");  
6  
7          Student.sendEmail("Hello");  
8          // prints: To: john@school.org  
9          //          Dear student: Hello  
10     }  
11 }  
12
```

Every class is a subclass from the class *Object*. Therefore every class inherits methods from *Object*.

See <http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html> for a full reference of the class *Object*.

toString()

Student is a subclass of *Object*. Therefore *Student* inherits the method `toString()` from *Object*.

`System.out.println(argument)` will call `argument.toString()` to receive a printable String.

```
1  public class School {  
2  
3      public static void main(String[] args) {  
4          Student Student =  
5              new Student("John", 16, "john@school.org");  
6  
7          System.out.println(Student);  
8          // prints: Student@_some_HEX-value_  
9          // for example: Student@4536ad4d  
10     }  
11 }  
12
```

Override toString()

```
1 public class Student extends Person {  
2  
3     public Student(String name, int age, String email) {  
4         super(name, age, email);  
5     }  
6  
7     @Override  
8     public String toString() {  
9         return "Student: " + this.name;  
10    }  
11 }  
12
```

Override toString() - Test

```
1  public class School {  
2  
3      public static void main(String[] args) {  
4          Student Student =  
5              new Student("John", 16, "john@school.org");  
6  
7          System.out.println(Student);  
8          // Student: John  
9      }  
10 }  
11
```

Programming

