Generic Functions

Generic functions, just like generic classes, work with data types that are not known at the time of writing them. For instance, a function that adds two integers can be made a generic function by allowing any number to be added to each other and returned. Such a function will then be made specialized by the compiler at compile-time into specific data types as used by the programmer.

Further reading:

- Generics - dart.dev
- Generic methods in Dart - Educative.io
- Dart 1.21: Generic Method Syntax
- Dart - Generics - GeeksforGeeks
- Working with generic types in Dart - medium

Examples

```dart
// here is an example of a generic function that
// defines a generic type called T that has to extend
// the class "num", and the function is called "plus".
// all this function does is really just adds two
// values namely lhs and rhs and returns the result but
// it does so using a generic way, in that it takes
// in parameters of type T and returns the same type T
T plus<T extends num>(T lhs, T rhs) {
  // the return value is then type-cast to T in order
  // to make the compiler happy!
  return (lhs + rhs) as T;
}
```