Lesson 10

Unit-Testing and Exception Handling

Progress through Purification of the Path

Wholeness of the Lesson

Test-driven development (TDD) combines traditional coding with unit-testing to ensure that the code that is written is, at the same time, reliable. By testing code as it is written, the need for correcting mistakes later is greatly reduced. When mistakes do arise in Java code, the debugger can be used to track them down. When the code has been written, errors of various kinds may still arise, and to handle these, a robust exception-handling strategy is required. Using the Java SE 8 try-with-resources construct makes it possible to code exception-handling scenarios that were tricky to handle before Java 8.

Overview

- 1. The "Test-Driven Development" Approach to Software Development
- 2. JUnit and Annotations
- 3. Debugging Your Code
- 4. Handling Exceptions in Java
- 5. Tricky Exception-Handling Situations
 - a. Introducing Try-With-Resources Construct
 - b. Exceptions Using JDBC and Try-With-Resources
 - c. Exceptions Thrown in a Stream Pipeline

The Test-Driven Development (TDD) Paradigm

- 1. The TDD paradigm says that the best testing strategy is to develop tests as part of the implementation process. Some even say that test code for a method or a class should be written before the actual code for the method or class is written. (TDD originated in the Extreme Programming development process, but is used these days regardless of the process used.)
- 2. TDD follows these steps
 - a. First the developer writes an (initially failing) automated test case that defines a desired improvement or new function
 - b. Next he produces the minimum amount of code to pass that test
 - c. Finally, he refactors the new code to acceptable standards.
- 3. Benefits of TDD (See the Wikipedia article)
 - a. Studies
 - a. A 2005 study found that using TDD meant writing more tests and, in turn, programmers who wrote more tests tended to be more productive.
 - b. Madeyski (Springer, 2010) provided an empirical evidence (involving 200 developers) that the TDD approach led to better OO design and more thorough and effective testing of a code base than the Test-Last approach.
 - c. Surveys of developers (many examples of this) reveal that developers find significantly less need to debug code when they use TDD.
 - d. Müller and Padberg ("About the Return on Investment of Test-Driven Development" pdf available online) showed that, while it is true that more code is required with TDD, the total code implementation time is often shorter.
 - b. Better handling of requirements. Since coding is closely related to testing, developer tends to think more effectively about how the code will be used the result is that requirements are met with at a higher success rate.
 - c. Catch defects early this leads to a reduction in overall cost
 - d. *Modular, flexible, extensible code*.TDD leads to more modularized, flexible, and extensible code because developers think of the software in terms of small units that can be written and tested independently and integrated together later
- 4. Example (see package lesson10.lecture.tdd)

Best Practices When Unit-Testing

- Separate common set up logic into support methods.
- Keep each test focused on only the results necessary to do the necessary validation..
- Treat your test code with the same respect as your production code. It also must work correctly
 for both positive and negative cases, last a long time, and be readable and maintainable. In
 particular, tests should not depend on data or other aspects of the system that are likely to
 change (example: relying on the number of records in a table as part of a test)

Things to avoid

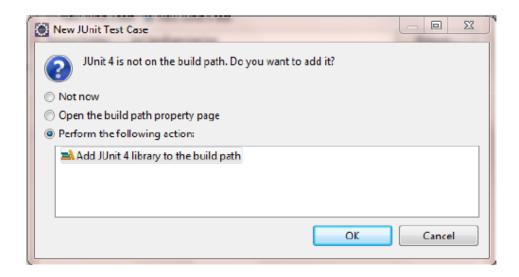
- Having test cases depend on system state manipulated from previously executed test cases.
- Dependencies between test cases. A test suite where test cases are dependent upon each other is brittle and complex. Execution order should not be presumed.
- Building "all-knowing oracles." An oracle that inspects more than necessary is more expensive and brittle over time.
- Slow running tests.

Unit-Testing Tools

| Tool | Description |
|---------------|---|
| Cactus | A JUnit extension for testing Java EE and web applications. Cactus tests are executed inside the Java EE/web container. |
| GrandTestAuto | Comprehensive Java software test tool not related to xUnit series of tools |
| Jtest | Commercial unit test tool that provides test generation and execution with code coverage and runtime error detection |
| JUnit 4.0 | Standard unit test tool; more flexible with release of version 4.0 |
| JUnitEE | A variant of JUnit that provides JEE testing |
| Mockito | Unit testing with mock objects |
| TestNG | Actually a multi-purpose testing framework, which means its tests can include unit tests, functional tests, and integration tests. Further, it has facilities to create even no-functional tests (as loading tests, timed tests). It uses Annotations since first version and is a framework more powerful and easy to use than the most used testing tool in Java: JUnit |

Review: Setting Up JUnit 4.0

- Right click the default package where your Hello.java class is, and create a JUnit Test Case TestHello.java by clicking New JUnit Test Case. (After we introduce the package concept, we will put the tests in a separate package.)
- Name it TestHello and click finish. You will see the following popup window.



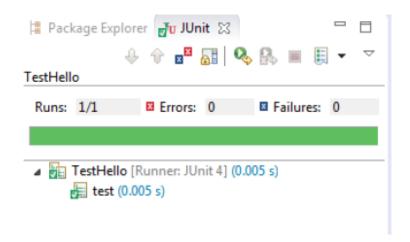
- Select "Perform the following action" → Add JUnit 4 library to the build path → OK
- Then you will see that JUnit 4 has been added to the Java Build Path by right clicking your project name → properties → Java Build Path.

 Create a testHello method in TestHello.java (see below) and remove the method test() that has been provided by default:

```
@Test
public void testHello() {
    assertEquals("Hello", Hello.hello());
}
```

If you have compiler error, you can hover over to the workspace where you have error and Eclipse will give you hints of what to do. (In this case, Add import 'org.junit.Assert.assertEquals'.)

Run your JUnit Test Case by right clicking the empty space of the file
 → Run As → JUnit Test. If you see the result like below, it means you have successfully created your first unit test.



- Methods that are annotated with @Test can be unit-tested with JUnit.
- Three most commonly used methods:

```
assertTrue(String comment, boolean test)
assertFalse(String comment, boolean test)
assertEquals(String comment, Object ob1, Object ob2)
```

In each case, when test fails, comment is displayed (so it should be used to say what the expected value was).

<u>Demo</u>: TDD Example Using JUnit 4.0 – see lesson10.lecture.tddjunit

How to Unit Test Stream Pipelines?

1. <u>The Problem</u>. Stream pipelines, with lambdas mixed in, form a single unit; it is not obvious how to effectively unit test the pieces of the pipeline.

2. Two Guidelines:

- a. If the pipeline is simple enough, it can wrapped in a method call, and it is enough to unit test the method call.
- b. If the pipeline is more complex, pieces of pipeline can be called from support methods, and the support methods can be unit-tested.

Unit-Testing Stream Pipelines:

Simple Expressions

• Example: Test the expression:

```
Function<List<String>> allToUpperCase =
  words -> words.stream()
          .map(word -> word.toUpperCase())
          .collect(Collectors.toList());
```

• Can do ordinary unit testing of the allToUpperCase

```
@Test
public void multipleWordsToUppercase() {
    List<String> input = Arrays.asList("a", "b", "hello");
    List<String> result = Testing.allToUpperCase.apply(input);
    assertEquals(asList("A", "B", "HELLO"), result);
}
```

Unit-Testing Lambdas:

Complex Expressions

Example:

- The key point to test is whether the expression for transforming a word so that its first letter becomes upper case is working.
- This can be done by replacing the lambda expression with a method reference together with an auxiliary method which can be placed in a companion class LibraryCompanion

Now the key element of the original lambda can be tested directly.

```
@Test
public void twoLetterStringConvertedToUppercase() {
   String input = "ab";
   String result = LibraryCompanion.firstToUpper(input);
   assertEquals("Ab", result);
}
```

Unit-Testing Lambdas:

Complex Expressions

The example suggests two best practices for unit testing when lambdas are involved:

- 1. Replace a lambda that needs to be tested with a method reference plus an auxiliary method
- 2. Then you can test the auxiliary method

Main Point 1

Unit testing, in conjunction with Test-Driven Development, make it possible to steer a mistake-free course as programming code is developed. The self-referral mechanism of anticipating logic errors in unit tests, developed as the main code is developed, is analogous to the mechanism that leads awareness to be established in its self-referral basis; action from such an established awareness tends to make fewer mistakes.

What Are Annotations?

- 1. We have seen them in various contexts already:
 - a. @Test JUnit 4
 - b. @Override to indicate (with compiler check) that a method is being overridden
 - c. @FunctionalInterface to indicate that an interface is functional and may be used with lambdas
 - d. @Deprecated to discourage use of a method or class
 - e. @SuppressWarnings to hide warning messages of various kinds
 - f. Javadoc annotations:
 - i. @author
 - ii. @since
 - iii. @version
- 2. Annotations are tags that you insert into your source code so that some tool can process them. The tools can operate on the source level, or they can process class files into which the compiler has placed annotations.
- 3. To benefit from annotations, you need to select a *processing tool*. You need to use annotations that your processing tool understands, then apply the processing tool to your code.
 - JUnit processes its @Test annotation
 - Java compiler processes the others shown

- 4. Annotations can be applied to a class, a method, a variable in fact, anywhere qualifilers like public and static may be used
- 5. Annotations may have 0 or more *elements*. Here is an example of a user-defined annotation that has two elements, assignedTo and severity.

```
@BugReport(assignedTo="Harry", severity=10)
```

[This annotation could be applied at the class level, but would require an external tool to process it.]

6. When an annotation has just one element and its name is "value", the following more compact form can be used:

```
@SuppressWarnings("unchecked")
[same as @SuppressWarnings(value = "unchecked")]
```

7. If the annotations have the same type, then this is called a <u>repeating annotation</u>:

```
@Author(name = "Jane Doe")
@Author(name = "John Smith")
class MyClass { ... }
```

Repeating annotations are supported as of the Java SE 8 release

8. User-defined annotations. The @interface keyword is the way the Java compiler knows you are creating an annotation; such "classes" extend the Annotation interface.

```
@Retention(RetentionPolicy.RUNTIME)
@Target(ElementType.TYPE)
public @interface BugReport {
    String assignedTo() default "[none]";
    int severity() default 0;
}
```

See the demo lesson10.lecture.annotation

@Retention @Retention annotation specifies how the marked annotation is stored:

- RetentionPolicy.SOURCE The marked annotation is retained only in the source level and is
 ignored by the compiler.
- RetentionPolicy.CLAss The marked annotation is retained by the compiler at compile time, but is ignored by the Java Virtual Machine (JVM).
- RetentionPolicy.RUNTIME The marked annotation is retained by the JVM so it can be used by the runtime environment.

@Target @Target annotation marks another annotation to restrict what kind of Java elements the annotation can be applied to. A target annotation specifies one of the following element types as its value:

- ElementType.ANNOTATION TYPE can be applied to an annotation type.
- ElementType.CONSTRUCTOR can be applied to a constructor.
- ElementType.FIELD can be applied to a field or property.
- ElementType.LOCAL VARIABLE can be applied to a local variable.
- ElementType.METHOD can be applied to a method-level annotation.
- ElementType.PACKAGE can be applied to a package declaration.
- ElementType.PARAMETER can be applied to the parameters of a method.
- ElementType.TYPE can be applied to any element of a class.

Debugging Your Code

One purpose of test-driven development is to minimize the time spent debugging. Working with unit tests to get code right from the beginning has proven to be a more cost effective way of arriving at bug-free code.

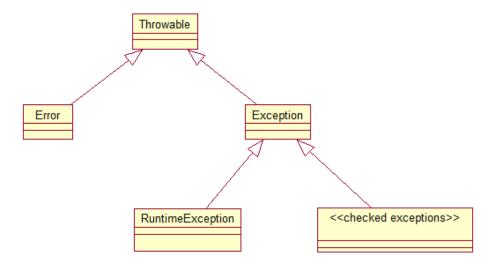
Nevertheless, debugging will never go away, so it is important to know tools and techniques.

Using the debugger

- · Add a watch:
 - Select variable.
 - On the top bar, click on Debug and then New Watch...
 or press Control+Shift+F7 and click OK. Variable will
 be added to the Variables view.
- Add a breakpoint:
 - · click on the left-side bar, where line numbers are placed
 - A breakpoint will be added to the side bar and a long pinkish line will specify the breakpoint location.

Exception-Handling in Java

In Java, error conditions are represented by Java classes, all of which inherit from Throwable.

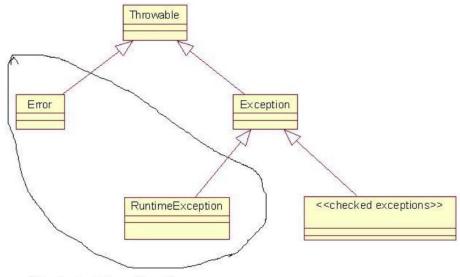


The Hierarchy of Exception Classes

Classification of Error-Condition Classes

In Java, error-condition classes belong to one of three categories:

- Error Objects in this category belong to the inheritance hierarchy headed by the Error class. Examples include OutOfMemoryError, StackOverflowError, VirtualMachineError. If these are thrown, it indicates an unrecoverable error and the application should terminate.
- Other Unchecked Exceptions Besides Error objects, unchecked exceptions include all objects that belong to the inheritance hierarchy headed by the class RuntimeException.
 Examples include NullPointerException, ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException, NumberFormatException. When these are thrown, it indicates that a programming error has occurred and needs to be fixed. Typically, these types of exceptions are not caught and handled they simply indicate that some logic error needs to be corrected.
- Checked Exceptions Exceptions in this category are subclasses of Exception but not subclasses of RuntimeException. Examples include FileNotFoundException, IOException, SQLException. The idea behind checked exceptions is that it should be possible to handle them in such a way that the application can continue; for example, if a database is unavailable, a SQLException would be thrown, and the user could be given the option to continue on to other features of the application even if the database is down for awhile.



"Unchecked Exceptions"

Four Ways to Deal with Checked Exceptions

- 1. Declare that your method throws the same kind of exception (and do not handle the exception)
- 2. Put the exception-creating code in a try block, and write a catch block to handle the exception in case it is thrown in other words, use try/catch blocks.
- 3. Use try/catch blocks catch block can log information about the current state and then re-throw the exception. In this case, as in (1), you must declare that the method throws this type of exception
- 4. Use try/catch blocks as in (3), but, when an exception is caught, wrap it in a new instance of another type of exception class and re-throw

See Demo lesson10.lecture.checkedexceptions

Summary of Best Practices

1. <u>Log when exception first arises</u>. When an exception is first caught, information about the state of the object should be logged – logging can be done in a catch block. However, if the try/catch are inside a loop that has many iterations or that could even possibly fail to terminate, logging should be done outside the loop.

Obtain instance of jdk Logger

Write to the LOG. Use LOG.severe, LOG.warning, LOG.info, LOG.fine

- 2. <u>Handler of exception should be chosen carefully</u>. An exception should be handled by an object that "knows" what to do with the exception typically, it should have the responsibility of communicating a message to the user. Therefore, when an exception is thrown, it should propagate up the call stack until it reaches an appropriate handler.
- 3. Never create an "empty" catch block. Exceptions should never be ignored, as in

If nothing needs to be done, there should at least be a comment stating this fact – and probably some message to the log – rather than dead silence.

- 4. Never catch Exception or Throwable. Your code should (almost) never catch Exception or Throwable. One reason is that doing so means that you will be handling any RuntimeExceptions that are thrown (like NullPointerException), and these should not be caught. [One exception to this rule arises sometimes when communicating with external APIs it may not always be possible to anticipate which types of Exceptions will be thrown by API methods, and you may want to make sure your application does not shut down because of an uncaught exceptions coming from the outside.]
- 5. <u>Always validate input arguments.</u> Important methods that take input arguments should validate input values and throw an IllegalArgumentException in case of invalid inputs.

```
void myMethod(String arg) {
   if(arg == null || arg.length() == 0)
        throw new IllegalArgumentException("Input must be nonempty");
   //more
}
```

Note that throwing any type of RuntimeException never requires a throws declaration.

6. <u>Don't throw instances of RuntimeException</u>. If you need to throw some kind of runtime exception, either use one of the specific subclasses of RuntimeException available in the Java libraries (as in the previous example: IllegalArgumentException, or others:

IllegalStateException, NumberFormatException) or, if nothing fits, create your own

IllegalStateException, NumberFormatException) or, if nothing fits, create your own subclass of RuntimeException. Never simply throw a RuntimeException — it is too general.

```
public class MyClass {
    void myMethod() {
        //problem arises . . .
        throw new RuntimeException("A problem...");
    }
}
This is bad...
```

```
public class MyClass {
    void myMethod() {
        //problem arises . . .
        throw new MyRuntimeException("A problem...");
    }
}

class MyRuntimeException
    extends RuntimeException {
    public MyRuntimeException() {
        super();
    }
    public MyRuntimeException(String msg) {
        super(msg);
    }
}
```

7. *Using a finally block*.

- A. <u>Always executes</u>. When finally is used, the code in the finally block is executed even if the try block succeeds and returns (finally block executes before performing the return) or an exception is thrown. When an exception is thrown and caught, before control is passed up the stack, finally clause executes; when it is not caught, before a stack trace is displayed, finally clause is executed.
- B. <u>Used for cleanup</u>. Traditionally, finally is used to clean up resources before exiting the application. Files are closed, database connections closed, etc. Java 7/8 provides a new approach (*try with resources*) to handle this pattern discussed below
- C. <u>No return statement in a finally block.</u> A return statement should not occur in a finally block if the try block also has a return statement, then the finally block's return statement will be the one that executes.
- D. <u>Do not throw an exception within a finally block</u>. An exception should not be thrown from within a finally block if an exception is thrown during execution of the try block, and then in the finally block another exception is thrown, the exception from the finally block is the one that is actually thrown.

Setting up the JDK Logger

1. The JDK Logger can always be accessed like this:

```
private final static Logger LOG = Logger.getLogger(<any string>)
```

The string argument should be the current package name. Typical way of obtaining this string:

```
MyClass.class.getPackage().getName();
```

The top-level logger is indicated by the empty string "":

```
Logger LOG = Logger.getLogger("");
```

There is also a global logger that can be obtained like this:

```
Logger LOG = Logger.getGlobalLogger();
```

For smaller applications, this one is fine to use.

- 2. Configuring the Logger
 - a. For production-quality logging, configuration should be done using the logging.properties file that comes with Java. Details about this are available in the setup folder for this course in the directory logging.
 - b. Log configuration can also be done in code. For this course, the logger can be configured using logsetup.jar. The global logger can be configured using this jar file with a call (in application startup):

```
LogSetup.setup();
```

The setup method does the following:

i. Provides simple output messages to the console. You can create one of these messages with one of these calls:

```
LOG.config(<message>), LOG.info(<message>),
LOG.warning(<message>), LOG.severe(<message>)
```

ii. Provides XML-formatted messages to a log file, placed at the top level of your src directory: src\logs

```
Demos: lesson10.lecture.logging.defaultlogging, lesson10.lecture.logging.defaultlogging2
```

Tricky try/catch/finally Situations

- 1. Avoid memory leaks. When your application uses external resources, like files or a database connection, it is important to close the connections after your application has finished using them. Typically, using these connections involves checked exceptions; but whether or not an exception is thrown, your application must disconnect from the resource, or there can be a memory leak, causing memory to fill up.
- 2. *Do clean-up in a finally block.* The usual way to clean up resources is in a finally block, which will execute whether or not an exception is thrown.
- 3. But, what if closing a resource is also capable of throwing a checked exception? How should this be handled?

Demo: lesson10.lecture.trickycatch1

Problems with the lesson10.lecture.trickycatch1 Solution:

- 1. It's messy
- 2. It is possible to make it more readable by separating the part that does interesting work (opening and reading a file) from the part that handles exceptions.

```
See lesson10.lecture.trickycatch2
```

In this approach, the code is separated into inner and outer try blocks. Inner try/finally block does file processing and outer try/catch block takes care of exception-handling.

Problems with Both Solutions:

In both solutions, an IOException could be thrown for two different reasons. The first of these would indicate a difficulty in finding or reading the file; the second would arise because the readers could not be closed. Only the first is of any interest, but if both are triggered, only the second one is thrown.

In Java 7, a new feature was added that allows you to add "suppressed" exceptions to a main exception, and then access them from the main exception as desired. The examples in lesson10.lecture.trickycatch3_suppressed show how this can be done here. Note that the code is rather complicated!

Try-with-Resources

The try-with-resources construct accomplishes the same thing as the code in lesson10.lecture.trickycatch3_suppressed, much more compactly. See the package lesson10.lecture.trickycatch4 trywithres

The resources named in the arguments to try will be closed at the completion of the try block. If an exception is thrown during execution of try and an error occurs in closing these resources, the close exceptions will automatically be appended to the main exception as suppressed exceptions (just as in

lesson10.lecture.trickycatch3_suppressed). If no such main exception occurs, but a close exception occurs, the close exception is thrown in the usual way.

A resource is an object that must be closed after the program is finished with it. The try-with-resources statement ensures that each resource is closed at the end of the statement. Any object that implements java.lang.AutoCloseable, which includes all objects which implement java.io.Closeable, can be used as a resource. The classes in Java 8 that implement AutoCloseable are listed here:

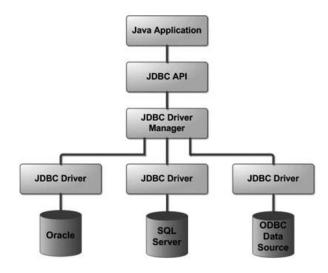
AbstractInterruptibleChannel, AbstractSelectableChannel, AbstractSelector, AsynchronousFileChannel, AsynchronousServerSocketChannel, AsynchronousSocketChannel, AudioInputStream, BufferedInputStream, BufferedOutputStream, BufferedReader, BufferedWriter, ByteArrayInputStream, ByteArrayOutputStream, CharArrayReader, CharArrayWriter, CheckedInputStream, CheckedOutputStream, CipherInputStream, CipherOutputStream, DatagramChannel, DatagramSocket, DataInputStream, DataOutputStream, DeflaterInputStream, DeflaterOutputStream, DigestInputStream, DigestOutputStream, FileCacheImageInputStream, FileCacheImageOutputStream, FileChannel, FileImageInputStream, FileImageOutputStream, FileInputStream, FileLock, FileOutputStream, FileReader, FileSystem, FileWriter, FilterInputStream, FilterOutputStream, FilterReader, FilterWriter, Formatter, ForwardingJavaFileManager, GZIPInputStream, GZIPOutputStream, ImageInputStreamImpl, ImageOutputStreamImpl, InflaterInputStream, InflaterOutputStream, InputStream, InputStream, InputStream, InputStreamReader, JarFile, JarInputStream, JarOutputStream, LineNumberInputStream, LineNumberReader, LogStream, MemoryCacheImageInputStream, MemoryCacheImageOutputStream, MLet, MulticastSocket, ObjectInputStream, ObjectOutputStream, OutputStream, OutputStream, OutputStream, OutputStreamWriter, Pipe.SinkChannel, Pipe.SourceChannel, PipedInputStream, PipedOutputStream, PipedReader, PipedWriter, PrintStream, PrintWriter, PrivateMLet, ProgressMonitorInputStream, PushbackInputStream, PushbackReader, RandomAccessFile, Reader, RMIConnectionImpl, RMIConnectionImpl Stub, RMIConnector, RMIIIOPServerImpl, RMIJRMPServerImpl, RMIServerImpl, Scanner, SelectableChannel, Selector, SequenceInputStream, ServerSocket, ServerSocketChannel, Socket, SocketChannel, SSLServerSocket, SSLSocket, StringBufferInputStream, StringReader, StringWriter, URLClassLoader, Writer, XMLDecoder, XMLEncoder, ZipFile, ZipInputStream, ZipOutputStream

Exception-Handling with JDBC

- Another example of a resource that can be managed with try-with-resources is the Connection object, invoked in interacting with a database, using JDBC. Handling exceptions and closing the connection in the right way and in the right sequence has tended to be error-prone. Using try-with-resources, it is straightforward to write code in the correct way.
- 2. **Introducing JDBC.** JDBC is a mechanism that makes it possible for a Java program to communicate with a database system (and other similar data sources) by way of SQL (structured query language) commands.
- 3. JDBC APIs facilitate
 - Making a connection to a database.
 - Creating SQL or MySQL statements.
 - Executing SQL or MySQL queries in the database.
 - Viewing and modifying the resulting records.
- 4. Over-simplified code sample (from Oracle tutorial)

5. The JDBC Architecture

- **JDBC API:** This provides the application-to-JDBC Manager connection.
- JDBC Driver API: This supports the JDBC Manager-to-Driver Connection.



SQL Examples

You use JDBC to transmit and execute SQL statements (for reading, inserting, updating, deleting) on a database. A pre-requisite to working with the JDBC APIs is a basic knowledge of SQL. Here are some basic examples:

1. SELECT. Select statements are used to read values from a table. Here is an example:

```
SELECT custid, password FROM Customer
WHERE custid = '1'
```

This statement locates all records in the Customer table in which the custid column has value '1', and returns rows restricted to the two columns custid and password

2. INSERT. Insert statements are used to insert a new row into a table. Here is an example:

```
INSERT INTO ShippingAddresses
(custid,street,city,state,zip)
VALUES('1','B St','Fairfield','IA','52556')
```

This statement inserts a new record into ShippingAddresses table, placing values 1, B St, Fairfield, IA, and 52556 in the custid, street, city, state, and zip fields, respectively.

3. DELETE. Delete statements remove one or more rows in a table. Here is an example.

```
DELETE FROM Company
WHERE comp name = 'Pepsi'
```

This statement deletes from the Company table all rows in which the comp_name field is equal to 'Pepsi'.

4. UPDATE. Updates are used to change values in already-existing rows in a table. Here is an example.

```
UPDATE Employees
SET salary = salary * 1.10
WHERE dep code = 32
```

This statement changes the value in the salary field to 1.10 times the original value, for all records in which the dep code equals 32.

JDBC Example and Proper Exception-Handling

- 1. Begin with the example given in lesson10.lecture.jdbc.read_trywithres
- 2. As in the case of closing a Reader, if a SQLException is thrown in reading the database and another is thrown in attempting to close the Connection, the close exception is appended to the database exception as a suppressed exception.
- 3. The implementation style uses try-with-resources just to manage the Connection object; the steps of forming and executing a Statement are handled in an embedded try/catch block.

Another JDBC Example:

Handling Transactions and Auto-Generated Keys

Transactions enable you to control if, and when, changes are applied to the database. It treats a single SQL statement or a group of SQL statements as one logical unit, and if any statement fails, the whole transaction fails.

To transaction support set the Connection object's autoCommit flag to false. For example, if you have a Connection object named conn, code the following to turn off auto-commit –

```
conn.setAutoCommit(false);
```

Once you have executed your SQL code (for insertions, deletions,etc), you *commit* the changes with a call to the Connection object's **commit()** method like this:

```
conn.commit( );
```

If an exception is thrown, you can rollback your changes to the database with a call to **rollback**:

```
conn.rollback( );
```

Exception-handling for transaction management can be tricky, but try-with-resources simiplifies the steps.

DEMO: lesson10.lecture.jdbc.transact

NOTES:

- 1. The demo illustrates the use of PreparedStatements. In a nutshell (for security reasons) whenever an SQL statement has parameters that need to be filled at runtime, the statement should be written using a PreparedStatement.
- 2. The Customer unique key field id is *auto-generated*. After you do an insert, you will often want to know what the value of the id that was generated by the database. The demo illustrates the technique for retrieving this value

RESOURCES:

JDBC and working with transactions are big topics. Here are two excellent follow-up resources:

- I. http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/jdbc/basics/transactions.html
- II. http://www.tutorialspoint.com/jdbc/index.htm

For practice with SQL, try:

III. http://www.w3schools.com/sql/sql intro.asp

More Tricky try/catch Situations: Exceptions in a Lambda/Stream Pipeline

- 1. Ordinary functional expressions, composed in a pipeline, may throw exceptions, but very often exception-handling can be done in the usual way. See demo code in lesson10.lecture.exceptions.
- 2. However, stream operations, like map and filter, that require a functional interface whose unique method *does not have a throws clause* (like Function and Predicate), make exception-handling more difficult. See demo code to see issues and best possible solutions. lesson10.lecture.exceptions2
- 3. The best one can do in these situations is to convert checked exceptions to

 RuntimeExceptions. The code can be made more readable and compact if the try/catch
 clause that is needed can be tucked away in an auxiliary method. Examples are provided in
 lesson10.lecture.exceptions3, lesson10.lecture.exceptions.connectold,
 and lesson10.lecture.exceptions.connectnew

Main Point 2

Associated with exception-handling in Java are many well-known best-practices. For example: exceptions that can be caught and handled – *checked exceptions* – reflect the philosophy that, if a mistake can be corrected during execution of an application, this is better result than shutting the application down completely. Secondly, one should never leave a caught exception unhandled (by leaving a catch block empty). Third, one should never ask a catch block to catch exceptions of type Exception because doing so tends to be meaningless.

Likewise, Maharishi points out that, in life, it is better not to make mistakes, but, if a mistake is made, it is best to handle it, to apologize, so that the situation can be repaired; it is never a good idea to simply "ignore" a wrongdoing that one has done. Repairing a wrongdoing requires proper use of speech; an "apology" that does not really address the issue may be too general and may do more harm than good.

CONNECTING THE PARTS OF KNOWLEDGE WITH THE WHOLENESS OF KNOWLEDGE

ANNOTATIONS

- 1. Executing a Java program results in algorithmic, predictable, concrete, testable behavior.
- 2. Using annotations, it is possible for a Java program to modify itself and interact with itself.
- 3. *Transcendental Consciousness* is the field self-referral pure consciousness. At this level, only one field is present, continuously in the state of knowing itself.
- 4. Impulses Within the Transcendental Field. What appears as manifest existence is the result of fundamental impulses of intelligence within the field of pure consciousness. These impulses are ways that pure consciousness acts on itself, interacts with itself.
- 5. Wholeness Moving Within Itself. In Unity Consciousness, the diversity of creation is appreciated as the play of fundamental impulses of one's own nature, one's own Self.

