Outline Covering Java SE 9

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LOLH

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1 Java SE 9 Introduction

2 Classes

The class is the logical construct upon which the Java language is built because it defines the shape and nature of an object, and therefore forms the basis for object-oriented programming in Java.

2.1 Class Fundamentals

A class defines a new data type. Once defined, this new type can be used to create objects of that type. A class is therefore a *template* for an object, and an *object* is an *instance* of a class. *Object* and *instance* are often used interchangeably.

2.1.1 General Form of a Class

When you define a class, you declare its exact form and nature. You do this by specifying the data that it contains and the code that operates on that data. A class is declared by use of the class keyword.

```
class classname {
  type instance-variable1;
  type instance-variable2;
  ...
  type instance-variableN;

  type method-name1 (parameter-list {
    body of method
  }

  type method-name2 (parameter-list {
    body of method
  }
  ...
  type method-nameN (parameter-list {
    body of method
  }
}
```

GeneralForm 2.1: Class Declaration — General Form

The data, or variables, defined within a class are called *instance variables*. The code is contained within *methods*. Collectively, the methods and variables defined within a class are called *members* of the class. In most cases, the instance variables are acted upon and accessed by the methods defined for that class. As a general rule, it is the methods that determine how a class' data can be used.

Each instance of the class (that is, each object of the class) contains its own copy of the instance variables. The data for one object is separate and unique from the data for another. Changes to the instance variables of one object have no effect on the instance variables of another.

Java classes do not need to have a 'main()' method; you only need to specify one if that class is the starting point for the program.

In general, you use the *dot operator* to access both the instance variables and the methods within an object. Although commonly referred to as the dot *operator*, the formal specification for Java categorizes the . as a *separator*.

2.2 Declaring Objects

Because a class creates a new data type, you can use this type to declare objects of that type. Obtaining objects of a class is a two-step process.

- 1. Declare a variable of the class type; this variable does not define an object. Instead, it is simply a variable that can *refer* to an object.
- 2. Acquire an actual, physical copy of the object and assign it to the variable; you can do this using the new operator. The new operator dynamically allocates (at run time) memory for an object, and returns a reference to to. This reference is (essentially) the address in memory of the object allocated by new. This reference is then stored in the variable. In Java, all class objects must be dynamically allocated.

Example Declaration, Allocation, and Assignment

```
Box mybox; // 1. declare a variable
mybox = new Box(); // 2. allocate a Box object
```

These two declarations can be combined into a single declaration, and usually are:

```
Box mybox = new Box();
```

The mybox variable simply holds the memory address of the actual Box object. The class name followed by parenthese specifies the *constructor* for the class.

2.3 Methods

General Form of a Method Declaration

```
type name (parameter-list) {
  body of method
}
```

GeneralForm 2.2: Method Declaration — General Form

type specifies the type of data returned by the method. This can be any valid type, including class types that you create. If the method does not return a value, its return type must be void.

name is the name of the method. This can be any legal identifier.

parameter-list is a sequence of type and identifier pairs separated by commas. Parameters are essentially variables that receive the value of the arguments passed to the method when it is called. If the method has no parameters, then the parameter list will be empty.

Methods that have a return type other than **void** return a value to the calling routine using a return statement:

```
return value
```

where *value* is the value returned.

2.4 Constructors

Java allows objects to initialize themselves when they are created. This automatic initialization is performed through the use of a constructor.

A constructor initializes an object immediately upon creation. It has the same name as the class in which it resides and is syntactically similar to a method. Once defined, the constructor is automatically called when the object is created, before the new operator completes. Constructors have no return type. It is the constructor's job to initialize the internal state of an object so that the code creating an instance will have fully initialized, usable object immediately.

2.5 The this Keyword

Sometimes a method will need to refer to the object that invoked it. To allow this, Java defines the this keyword. this can be used inside any method to refer to the *current* object. That is, this is always a reference to the object on which the method was invoked. You can use this anywhere a reference to an object of the current class' type is permitted.

2.5.1 Instance Variable Hiding

It is illegal to declare two local variables with the same name inside the same or enclosing scope. However, you can have local variables, including formal parameters to methods, which overlap with the names of the class' instance variables. For these cases, the local variables *hide* the instance variables of the same name.

Because this lets you refer directly to the object, you can use it to resolve any namespace collisions that might occur between instance variables and local variables. So, this.width = width is an example of a local variable (width) hiding an instance variable (also width), with this allowing an assignment between them.

2.6 A Stack Class

To see a practical application of object-oriented programming, here is one of the archetypal examples of encapsulation: the stack. A stack stores data using first-in, last-out ordering. That is, a stack is like a stack of plates on a table — the first plate put down on the table is the last plate to be used. Stacks are controlled through two operations traditionally called push and pop. To put an item on top of the stack, you will use push. To take an item off the stack, you will use pop. It is easy to encapsulate the entire stack mechanism.

Here is a class called Stack that implements a stack for up to ten integers, plus test class called TestStack:

Stack.java

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

The called chunk < TestStack Main Method> is first defined at "Stack TestStack Subsection", page 8.

2.6.1 Stack Instance Variables

```
<Stack Instance Variables> =
  int[] stck = new int[10];
  int tos;
```

This chunk is called by {Stack.java}; see its first definition at "A Stack Class", page 6.

2.6.2 Stack Constructor Subsection

```
<Stack Constructor> \( // \) initialize top-of-stack tos
    Stack() {
      tos = -1;
    }
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name First definition point Stack.java See "A Stack Class", page 6. StackImproved.java See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.
```

2.6.3 Stack Instance Methods Subsection

```
<Stack\ Instance\ Methods> \equiv
<Stack\ Push>
<Stack\ Pop>
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name First definition point Stack.java See "A Stack Class", page 6. StackImproved.java See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk nameFirst definition point<Stack Pop>See "Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection", page 8.<Stack Push>See "Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection", page 8.
```

2.6.3.1 Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection

```
<Stack Push> =
   // Push an item onto the stack
   void push(int item) {
    if (tos == 9)
       System.out.println("Stack is full.");
    else
       stck[++tos] = item;
}
```

This chunk is called by *Stack Instance Methods*; see its first definition at "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

```
<Stack Pop> =
   // Pop an item from the stack
   int pop() {
     if (tos < 0) {
        System.out.println("Stack underflow.");
        return 0;
     } else
        return stck[tos--];
     }
}</pre>
```

This chunk is called by *Stack Instance Methods*; see its first definition at "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

2.6.4 Stack TestStack Subsection

```
<TestStack Main Method> \( \)
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Stack mystack1 = new Stack();
        Stack mystack2 = new Stack();

        // push some numbers onto the stack
        for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)
            mystack1.push(i);
        for (int i = 10; i < 20; i++)
            mystack2.push(i);

        // pop those numbers off the stack
        System.out.println("Stack in mystack1:");
        for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)</pre>
```

```
System.out.println(mystack1.pop());
System.out.println("Stack in mystack2:");
for (int i + 0; i < 10; i++)
    System.out.println(mystack2.pop());
}</pre>
```

This chunk is called by {TestStack.java}; see its first definition at "A Stack Class", page 7.

3 Methods and Classes

This chapter examines several topics relating to methods and classes, including

- overloading
- parameter passing
- recursion
- access control
- keywords static and final
- String class
- Arrays
- nested and inner classes
- command-line arguments and varargs

3.1 Overloading Methods

It is possible to define two or more methods within the same class that share the same name as long as their parameter declarations are different. When this is the case, the methods are said to be *overloaded*, and the process is referred to as *method overloading*. Method overloading is one of the ways that Java supports polymorphism.

When an overloaded method is invoked, Java uses the type and number of arguments as its guid to determine which version of the overloaded method to actually call. Thus, overloaded methods must differ in the type or number of their parameters. While overloaded methods may have different return types, their eturn type alone is inusfficient to distinguish two versions of a method. When Java encounters a call to an overloaded method, it simply executes the version of the method whose parameters match the arguments used in the call.

The match between arguments and parameters need not always be exact. In some cases, Java's automatic type conversions can play a role in overload resolution. For example, if there is a method with one double parameter, and that method is invoked with a single int argument, then, when no exact match is found, Java will automatically convert the integer into a double, and this conversion will be used to resolve the call. Java will employ automatic type conversion only if no exact match is found.

Method overloading supports polymorphism because it is one way that Java implements the one interface, multiple methods paradigm. That is, Java does not need to rename each similar method just because it has a slightly different parameter requirements. The value of overloading is that it allows related methods to be accessed by use of a common name, representing the general action that is being performed, and leaves to the compiler the choice of the right specific version for a particular circumstance. The programmer need only remember the general operation being performed. Through the application of polymorphism, several names have been reduced to one. Overloading can help manage greater complexity.

3.1.1 Overloading Constructors

You can also overload constructor methods.

3.2 Objects as Parameters

It is both correct and common to pass objects to methods as well as primitive types. One of the most common uses of object parameters involves constructors. Frequently you will want to construct a new object so that it is initially the same as some existing object. To do this, you must define a constructor that takes an object of its class as a parameter. Providing many forms of constructors is usually required to allow objects to be constructed in a convenient and efficient manner.

3.3 Argument Passing

In general, there are two ways that a computer language can pass an argument to a sub-routine:

- 1. call-by-value
- 2. call-by-reference

Java uses call-by-value to pass all arguments, although the precise effect differs between whether a primitive type or a reference type is passed.

When you pass a primitive type to a method, it is passed by value. Thus, a copy of the argument is made, and what occurs to the parameter that receives the argument has no effect outside the method.

When you pass an object to a method, the situation changes; objects are passed by what is effectively call-by-reference. When you pass a variable of a class type, you pass a reference to the method and the parameter receiving it will refer to the same object. This effectively means that objects act as if they are passed to methods by use of call-by-reference. Changes to the object inside the method do affect the object used as an argument. However, when an object reference is passed to a method, the reference itself is passed by use of call-by-value; therefore, that reference will continue to refer to the object, even though the object itself may be modified.

3.4 Returning Objects

A method can return any type of data, including class types that you create.

Since all objects are dynamically allocated using new, you don't need to worry about an object going out-of-scope because the method in which it was created terminates. The object will continue to exist as long as there is a reference to it somewhere in your program. When there are no references to it, the object will be reclaimed the next time garbage collection takes place.

3.5 Recursion

Recursion is the process of defining something in terms of itself. In programming, it is also what allows a method to call itself. A method that calls itself is said to be recursive.

When a method calls itself, new local variables and parameters are allocated storage on the stack, and the method code is executed with these new variables from the start. As each recursive call returns, the old local variables and parameters are removed from the stack, and execution resumes at the point of the call inside the method. Recursive versions of many routines may execute a bit slower than the iterative equivalent because of the added overhead of the additional method calls. A large number of recursive calls to a method could cause a stack overrun. Because storage for parameters and local varibles is on the stack and each new call creates a new copy of these variables, it is possible that the stack could be exhausted. If this occurs, the Java run-time system will cause an exception.

The main advantage to recursive methods is that they can be used to create clearer and simpler versions of several algorithms than can their iterative relatives. For example, the QuickSort sorting algorithm is quite difficult to implement in an iterative way. Also, some types of AI-related algorithms are most easily implemented using recursive solutions.

3.6 Access Control

Encapsulation provides another important attribute besides linking data with code: access control. Through encapsulation, you can control what parts of a program can access the members of a class. By controlling access, you can prevent misuse. Thus, when correctly implemented, a class creates a black box which may be used, but the inner workings of which are not open to tampering. The classes introduced earlier do not completely meet this goal. For example, the Stack class provides the methods push() and pop() as a controlled interface to the stack, this interface is not enforced — it is possible for another part of the program to bypass these methods and access the stack directly. This could lead to trouble.

How a member can be accessed is determined by the access modifier attached to its declaration. Java supplies a rich set of access modifiers. Some aspects of access control are related mostly to inheritance or packages (and now modules). Those ideas will be discussed later. Here, let's examine access control as it relates to a single class.

Access Modifiers

Java's access modifiers are:

- public
- private
- protected (applies only to inheritance)
- default access level

public vs private Access

When a member of a class is modified by public, then that member can be accessed by any other code. When a member of a class is specified as private, then that member can only be accessed by other members of its class. Thus, the method main() is always preceded by the public modifier. It must be called by code that is outside the program — the Java run-time system.

Default Access — No Access Modifier

When no access modifier is used, then by default the member of a class is public within its own package, but cannot be accessed outside of its package. In the classes developed so far, all members of a class have used the default access mode. However, this is typically

not what you will want to be the case. Usually, you will want to restrict access to the data members of a class — allowing access only through methods. There will also be times when you will want to define methods that are private to a class.

Access Modifier Syntax

An access modifier precedes the rest of a member's type specification. That is, it must begin a member's declaration statement. As an example:

```
public int i;
private double j;

private int myMethod(int a, char b) {
    ...
}
```

Access Control and Inheritance

Consult the chapter on Chapter 4 "Inheritance", page 18, for more on the topic of access control in relation to inheritance.

3.6.1 An Improved Stack Class

StackImproved.java

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<Stack Constructor>

<Stack Instance Methods>

<Stack Private Instance Variables>

First definition point

See "Stack Constructor Subsection", page 7.

See "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.
```

Stack Private Instance Variables

```
<Stack Private Instance Variables> =
  /* Now, both stck and tos are private. This means
          that they cannot be accidentally or maliciously
          altered in a way that would be harmful to the stack.
          */
          private int[] stck = new int[10];
```

 $^{^{1}\,}$ Notice how all of the prior code except what is changed can easily be reused using TexiWebJr's modular system.

```
private int tos;
```

This chunk is called by {StackImproved.java}; see its first definition at "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

Now both stck, which holds the stack, and tos, which is the index of the top of the stack, are specified as private. This means that they cannot be accessed or altered except through push() and pop(). Making tos private, for example, prevents other parts of your program from inadvertently setting it to a value that is beyond the end of the stck array. In other words, the following code, added to the end of the TestStack.java program (see "Stack TestStack Subsection", page 8), would be illegal and the program would not compile:

```
mystack1.tos = -2;
mystack2.stck[3] = 100;
```

3.7 static Keyword

There will be times when you want to define a class member that will be used independently of any object of that class. Normally, a class member must be accessed in conjunction with an object of its class. However, it is possible to create a member that can be used by itself without reference to a specific instance. To create such a member, precede its declaration with the keyword static. When a member is declared static, it can be accessed before any objects of its class are created, and without reference to any object.

You can declare both methods and variables to be static. Instance variables declared as static are essentially global variables. When objects of its class are declared, no copy of a static variable is made. Instead, all instances of the class share the same static variable.

Restrictions on static Methods

Methods declared as static have several restrictions:

- they can only directly call other static methods of their class;
- they can only directly access static variables of their class;
- they cannot refer to this or super in any way;

static Block

If you need to do computation in order to initialize your static variables, you can declare a static block that gets executed exactly once, when the class is first loaded (static initialization block).

```
class UseStatic {
  static int a = 3;
  static int b;

static {
   b = a * 4;
  }
}
```

As soon as the UseStatic class is loaded, all of the static statements are run. First, a is set to '3', then the static block executes and initializes b to 'a * 4' or '12'. Then main() is called (not shown).

Use of static Members Outside Their Class

Outside of the class in which they are defined, static methods and variables can be used independently of any object. To do so, you need only specify the name of their class followed by the dot operator: classname.method(). classname is the name of the class in which the static method is declared. A static variable can be accessed in the same way. This is how Java implements a controlled version of global methods and global variables.

3.8 final Keyword

A field can be declared as final. Doing so prevents its contents from being modified, making it, esentially, a constant. This means that you must initialize a final field when it is declared. You can do this in one of two ways: when it is declared, or within a constructor.

In addition to fields, both method parameters and local variables can be declared as final. Declaring a parameter as final prevents it from being changed within the method. Declaring a local variable final prevents it from being assigned a value more than once.

The keyword final can also be applied to methods, but its meaning is different than when applied to variables. This usage of final is described in the next chapter (see Chapter 4 "Inheritance", page 18).

3.9 Arrays Revisited

Arrays are implemented as objects. Because of this, there is a special array attribute that you will want to take advantage of. Specifically, the size of an array—that is, the number of elements that an array can hold—is found in its length instance variable. All arrays have this variable, and it will always hold the size of the array. Keep in mind that the value of length has nothing to do with the number of elements that are actually in use. It only reflects the number of elements taht the array is designed to hold.

3.10 Nested and Inner Classes

It is possible to define a class within another class; such classes are known as nested classes. The scope of a nested class is bounded by the scope of its enclosing class. A nested class does not exist independently of its enclosing class. A nested class has access to the members, including private members, of the enclosing class. However, the enclosing class does not have access to the members of the nested class. A nested class that is declared directly within its enclosing class scope is a member of its enclosing class. It is also possible to declare a nested class that is local to a block.

Static Nested Class

There are two types of nested class: *static* and *inner*. A static nested class is one that has the **static** modifer applied. Because it is static, it must access the non-static members of its enclosing class through an object. That is, it cannot refer to non-static members of its enclosing class directly. Static nested classes are seldom used.

Inner Class

The most important type of nested class is the *inner* class. An inner class is a non-static nested class. It has access to all of the variables and methods of its outer class and may refer to them directly in the same way that other non-static members of the outer class do.

An instance of an inner class can be created only in the context of its enclosing class. The Java compiler will report an error otherwise. In general, an inner class instance is often created by code within its enclosing scope.

It is possible to define inner classes within any block scope, including within the block defined by a method or even within the body of a for loop.

Handling Events

While nested classes are not applicable to all situations, they are particularly helpful when handling events. See Chapter 18 "Event Handling", page 92. There are also anonymous inner classes, inner classes that don't have a name.

3.11 The String Class

Every string you create is an object of type String. Even string constants are String objects. For example, in the statement System.out.println("This is a String, too");, the quote is a String object.

Objects of type String are immutable; once a String object is created, its contents cannot be altered. Java defines peer classes of String, called StringBuffer and StringBuilder, which allow strings to be altered, so all of the normal string manipulations are still available.

Constructing String Objects and Concatenating Strings

Strings can be constructed in a variable of ways. The easiest is to use a statement:

```
String myString = "this is a test";

Java defines one operator for String objects: +. It is used to concatenate two strings.

String myString = "I" + " like " + "Java.";
```

String Methods

The String class contains several methods that you can use.

- boolean equals(secondStr)
- int length()
- char charAt(index)

3.12 Using Command-Line Arguments

Sometimes you will want to pass information into a program when you run it. This is accomplished by passing *command-line arguments* to main(). A command-line argument is the information that directly follows the program's name on the command line when it is executed. To access the command-line arguments inside a Java program, access the String

arguments passed to the args parameter of main(). The first command-line argument is stored at args[0], the second at args[1], and so on. All command-line arguments are passed as strings. You must convert numeric values to their internal forms manually. See Chapter 12 "java.lang", page 84.

3.13 Varargs: Variable-Length Arguments

Beginning with JDK 5, Java has included a feature that simplifies the creation of methods that need to take a variable number of arguments. This feature is called *varargs* and it is short for *variable-length arguments*. A method that takes a variable number of arguments is called a *variable-arity method*, or simply *varargs method*.

A variable-length argument is specified by three period (...). For example: static void vaTest (int ... v) {. This syntax tells the compiler that vaTest() can be called with zero or more arguments. As a result, v is implicitly declared as an array of type int[]. Thus, inside vaTest(), v is accessed using the normal array syntax.

A method can have *normal* parameters along with a variable-length parameter, but the variable-length parameter must be the final parameter declared by the method. Further, there can be only one varargs parameter.

```
int doIt(int a, int b, double c, int ... vals) {
```

After the first three arguments, any remaining arguments are passed to vals.

Overloading Vararg Methods

You can overload a method that takes a variable-length argument (i.e., it can be given a different type, or additional parameters can be included, or a non varargs parameter).

Note that unexpected errors can result when overloading a method that takes a variable-length argument. These errors involve ambiguity because it is possible to create an ambiguous call to an overloaded varargs method. In such a case, the program will not compile. While each individual method declaration might be valid, the call might yet be ambiguous.

4 Inheritance

Inheritance is a cornerstone of object-oriented programming because it allows the creation of hierarchical classifications. Using inheritance, you can create a general class that defines traits common to a set of related items. This class can then be inherited by other, more specific classes, each adding those things that are unique to them.

A class that is inherited is called a *superclass*. The class that does the inheriting is called a *subclass*. A subclass is a specialized version of a subclass. It inherits all of the members defined by the superclass and adds its own, unique elements.

4.1 Inheritance Basics

To *inherit* a class, incorporate the definition of one class into another by using the extends keyword.

```
class A {...}
class B extends A {...}
```

A subclass will include all of the members of its superclass. The subclass can directly reference all of the members of the superclass as well. Subclasses can be superclasses of other subclasses.

General Form of a Subclass Inheriting a Superclass

```
class subclass-name extends superclass-name { body\ of\ class }
```

GeneralForm 4.1: Subclass General Form

A subclass can have only one superclass. Java does not support the inheritance of multiple superclasses into a single subclass.

4.1.1 Member Access and Inheritance

Although a subclass includes all of the members of its superclass, it cannot access those members of the superclass that have been declared as private. A class member that has been declared as private will remain private to its class. It is not accessible by any code outside its class, including subclasses.

A major advantage of inheritance is that once you have created a superclass that defines the attributes commoin to a set of objects, it can be used to create any number of more specific subclasses. Each subclass can precisely tailor its own classification.

4.1.2 A Superclass Variable Can Reference a Subclass Object

A reference variable of a superclass can be assigned a reference to any subclass derived from that superclass.

It is important to understand that it is the type of the reference variable — not the type of the object that it refers to — that determines what members can be accessed. That is, when a reference to a subclass object is assigned to a superclass reference variable, you will have access only to those parts of the object defined by the superclass. The superclass has no knowledge of what a subclass adds to it.

4.2 Using super

Whenever a subclass needs to refer to its immediate superclass, it can do so by use of the keyword super. super has two general forms. The first calls the superclass' constructor. The second is used to access a member of the superclass that has been hidden by a member of a subclass.

4.2.1 Using super to Call Superclass Constructors

A subclass can call a constructor defined by its superclass by use of the following form of super:

```
super(arg-list);
```

GeneralForm 4.2: super Calling a Constructor

arg-list specifies any arguments needed by the constructor in the superclass. super() must always be the first statement executed inside a subclass' constructor. super() can be called using any form defined by the superclass.

4.2.2 super Referencing Superclass

The second form of super acts somewhat like this, except that it always refers to the superclass of the subclass in which it is used.

```
super.member
```

GeneralForm 4.3: super Referencing its Superclass

member can be either a method or an instance variable. This form of **super** is most applicable to situations in which member names of a subclass hide members by the same name in the superclass.

```
i = super.i;
```

super allows access to the i defined in the superclass. super can also be used to call methods that are hidden by a subclass.

4.3 Creating a Multilevel Hierarchy

You can build hierarchies that contain as many layers of inheritance as you like. It is acceptable to use a subclass as a superclass of antoher. Each subclass inherits all of the traits found in all of its superclasses.

super always refers to the constructor in the closest superclass.

While an entire class hierarchy can be created in a single file, the individual classes (superclasses and subclasses) can be placed into their own files and compiled separately. Using separate files is the norm, not the exception, in creating class hierarchies.

4.4 When Constructors are Executed

In a class hierarchy, constructors complete their execution in order of derivation, from superclass to subclass.

4.5 Method Overriding

In a class hierarchy, when a method in a subclass has the same name and type signature as a method in its superclass, then the method in the subclass is said to *override* the method in the superclass. When an overriden method is called from within its subclass, it will always refer to the version of that method defined by the subclass. The version of the method defined by the superclass will be hidden.

If you wish to access the superclass version of an overridden method, you can so by using super.

Method overriding occurs *only* when the names and the type signatures of the two methods are identical. If they are not, then the two methods are simply overloaded (no name hiding takes place).

4.6 Dynamic Method Dispatch

Method overriding forms the basis for one of Java's most powerful concepts: dynamic method dispatch. This is a meachanism by which a call to an overrident method is resolved at run time, rather than compile time. This is important because this is how Java implements run-time polymorphism.

A superclass reference variable can refer to a subclass object. Java uses this fact to resolve calls to overriden methods at run time. When an overriden method is called through a superclass reference, Java determines which version of that method to execute based upon the type of the object being referred to at the time the call occurs. Thus, this determination is made at run time. When different types of objects are referred to, different versions of an overridden method will be called. In other words, it is the type of the object being referred to (not the type of the reference variable) that determines which version of an overridden method will be executed. Therefore, if a superclass contains a method that is overridden by a subclass, then when different types of objects are referred to through a superclass reference variable, different versions of the method are executed.

4.6.1 Why Overridden Methods?

Overridden methods allow Java to support run-time polymorphism. Polymorphism is essential to object-oriented programming for one reason: it allows a general class to specify methods that will be common to all of its derivatives, while allowing subclasses to define the specific implementation of some or all of those methods. Overridden methods are another way that Java implements the "one interface, multiple methods" aspect of polymorphism.

Successfully applying polymorphism is understanding that the superclasses and subclasses form a hierarchy which moves from lesser to greater specialization. Used correctly, the superclass provides all elements that a subclass can use directly. It also defines those methods that the derived class must implement on its own. This allows the subclass the flexibility to define its own methods, yet still enforces a consistent interface. Thus, by combining inheritance with overridden methods, a superclass can define the general form of the methods that will be used by all of its subclasses.

Dynamic, run-time polymorphism is one of the most powerful mechanisms that objectoriented design brings to bear on code reuse and robustness. The ability of existing code libraries to call methods on instances of new classes without recompiling while maintaining a clean abstract interface is a profoundly powerful tool.

4.6.2 Applying

Let's look at a practical example that uses method overriding. The following program creates a superclass called Figure that stores the dimensions of a two-dimensional object. It also defines a method called area() that computes the area of an object. The program derives two subclasses from Figure. The first is Rectangle and the second is Triangle. Each of these subclasses overrides area() so that it returns the area of a rectangle and a triangle respectively.

```
 \{ \texttt{FindAreas.java} \} \equiv \\ < \textit{FindAreas SuperClass Figure} > \\ < \textit{FindAreas SubClass Rectangle} > \\ < \textit{FindAreas SubClass Triangle} > \\ < \textit{FindAreas Main Class} > \\
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<FindAreas Main Class >
<FindAreas SubClass Rectangle >
<FindAreas SubClass Triangle >
<FindAreas SubClass Triangle >
<FindAreas SuperClass Figure >

First definition point
See "FindAreas Main Class Section", page 24.
See "FindAreas SubClass Rectangle Section", page 23.
See "FindAreas SubClass Triangle Section", page 23.
See "FindAreas Superclass Figure Section", page 21.
```

Output

The output from the program should be:

```
Inside Area for Rectangle.
Area is 45
Inside Area for Triangle.
Area is 40
Area for Figure is undefined.
Area is 0
```

Through the dual mechanisms of inheritance and run-time polymorphism, it is possible to define one consistent interface that is used by several different, yet related, types of objects. In this case, if an object is derived from Figure, then its area can be obtained by calling area(). The interface to this operation is the same no matter what type is being used.

4.6.2.1 FindAreas Superclass Figure Section

```
<FindAreas SuperClass Figure > ≡
    class Figure {
        <Figure Instance Variable Declarations >
        <Figure Constructor >
        <Figure Area Method Declaration >
    }
```

This chunk is called by {FindAreas.java}; see its first definition at "Applying", page 21. The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Figure Instance Variable Declarations

```
<Figure Instance Variable Declarations > =
    double dim1;
    double dim2;
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

Figure Constructor

```
<Figure Constructor > \equiv Figure (double 1, double b) {
    dim1 = a;
    dim2 = b;
}
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name

<a href="#">First definition point</a>
<a href="#">AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure</a>
<a href="#">First definition point</a>
<a href="#">See "AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure Section"</a>, page 27.
<a href="#">page 27</a>
<a href="#">FindAreas SuperClass Figure Section"</a>, page 21.
```

Figure Area Method Declaration

It will be this method that will be overridden by the two subclasses; while this method will not produce any output, each of the subclasses will provide a formula for their own area and output that number, even though the same method (area()) is being called in each case from the same variable.

```
<Figure Area Method Declaration > \( \)
double area() {
    System.out.println("Area for Figure is undefined.");
    return 0;
}
```

This chunk is called by *FindAreas SuperClass Figure*; see its first definition at "FindAreas Superclass Figure Section", page 21.

4.6.2.2 FindAreas SubClass Rectangle Section

```
<FindAreas SubClass Rectangle > ≡
    class Rectangle extends Figure {
        <Rectangle Constructor >
        <Rectangle Area Method Declaration >
}
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name
{AbstractAreas.java }

{First definition point
See "Improved Figure Class", page 27.

{FindAreas.java }

See "Applying", page 21.
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Rectangle Constructor

```
<Rectangle Constructor > \( \)
Rectangle (double a, double b) {
    super(a, b);
}
```

This chunk is called by *FindAreas SubClass Rectangle >*; see its first definition at "FindAreas SubClass Rectangle Section", page 23.

Rectangle Area Method Declaration

```
<Rectangle Area Method Declaration > \( \)
    // override area for rectangle
    double area() {
        System.out.println("Inside Area for Rectangle.";
        return dim1 * dim2;
    }
```

This chunk is called by *FindAreas SubClass Rectangle* >; see its first definition at "FindAreas SubClass Rectangle Section", page 23.

4.6.2.3 FindAreas SubClass Triangle Section

```
<FindAreas SubClass Triangle > ≡
   class Triangle extends Figure {
      <Triangle Constructor >
      <Triangle Area Method Declaration >
}
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name
                                     First definition point
                                     See "Improved Figure Class", page 27.
{AbstractAreas.java }
{FindAreas.java }
                                     See "Applying", page 21.
The following table lists called chunk definition points.
Chunk name
                                     First definition point
<Triangle Area Method Declaration >
                                     See "FindAreas SubClass Triangle Section", page 24.
< Triangle\ Constructor >
                                     See "FindAreas SubClass Triangle Section", page 24.
Triangle Constructor
< Triangle \ Constructor > \equiv
      Triangle (double a, double b) {
         super(a, b);
      }
```

This chunk is called by *FindAreas SubClass Triangle* >; see its first definition at "FindAreas SubClass Triangle Section", page 23.

Triangle Area Method Declaration

```
<Triangle Area Method Declaration > \( \)
    // override area for right triangle
    double area () {
        System.out.println("Inside Area for Triangle.");
        return dim1 * dim2 / 2;
    }
```

This chunk is called by *FindAreas SubClass Triangle* >; see its first definition at "FindAreas SubClass Triangle Section", page 23.

4.6.2.4 FindAreas Main Class Section

```
<FindAreas Main Class > ≡
    class FindAreas {
      <FindAreas Main Method Declaration >
}
```

This chunk is called by {FindAreas.java }; see its first definition at "Applying", page 21.

The called chunk *FindAreas Main Method Declaration* is first defined at "FindAreas Main Class Section", page 24.

FindAreas Main Method Declaration

}

This chunk is called by *FindAreas Main Class* >; see its first definition at "FindAreas Main Class Section", page 24.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

Call Overridden Methods One By
One >

Create Basic Figure Objects >

Create Basic Figure Reference Variable >

Create Basic Figure Reference Var
```

Create Basic Figure Objects

```
<Create Basic Figure Objects > =
Figure f = new Figure(10, 10);
Rectangle r = new Rectangle(9, 5);
Triangle t = new Triangle(10, 8);
```

This chunk is called by *FindAreas Main Method Declaration* >; see its first definition at "FindAreas Main Class Section", page 24.

Create Basic Figure Reference Variable

This superclass reference variable Figure figref will hold, alternately, references to each of the classes and will call the method area() on each, producing a different result each time. This is the essence of method overriding and dynamic method dispatch.

```
<Create Basic Figure Reference Variable > =
Figure figref;
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

Call Overridden Methods One By One

```
<Call Overridden Methods One By One > =
   figref = r;
   System.out.println("Area is " + figref.area());
   figref = t;
   System.out.println("Area is " + figref.area());
   figref = f;
   System.out.println("Area is " + figref.area());
```

This chunk is called by *FindAreas Main Method Declaration*; see its first definition at "FindAreas Main Class Section", page 24.

4.7 Using Abstract Classes

There are situations in which you will want to define a superclass that declares the structure of a given abstraction without providing a complete implementation of every method. That is, sometimes you will wnat to create a superclass that only defines a generalized form that will be shared by all of its subclasses, leaving it to each subclass to fill in the details. Such a class determines the nature of the methods that the subclasses must implement. One way this situation can occur is when a superclass is unable to create a meaningful implementation for a method. This is the case with Figure in the preceding example. The definition of area() is simply a placeholder. It will not compute and display the area of any type of object.

It is not uncommon for a method to have no meaningful definition in the context of its superclass. Java's solution to this problem is the abstract method.

You can require that certain methods be overridden by subclasses by specifying the abstract type modifier. These methods are sometimes referred to as *subclasser responsibility* because they have no implementation specified in the superclass. Thus, a subclass must override them — it cannot simply use the version defined in the superclass.

To declare an abstract method, use the general form:

abstract type name (parameter-list);

GeneralForm 4.4: Abstract Method Declaration—General Form

No method body is present.

Any class that contains one or more abstract methods must also be declared abstract. To declare a class abstract, simply use the abstract keyword in front of the class keyword at the beginning of the class declaration. There can be no objects of an abstract class. That is, an abstract class cannot be directly instantiated with the new operator. You cannot declare abstract constructors or abstract static methods. Any subclass of an abstract class must either implement all of the abstract methods in the superclass, or be declared abstract itself. Abstract classes can include fully implemented methods.

Abstract Classes Can Be Reference Variables

Although abstract classes cannot be used to instantiate objects, they can be used to create object references, because Java's approach to run-time polymorphism is implemented through the use of superclass references. Thus, it must be possible to create a reference to an asbtract class so that it can be used to point to a subclass object.

4.7.1 Improved Figure Class

Using the abstract class, you can improve the Figure class. Since there is no meaningful concept of area for an undefined two-dimensional figure, the following version of the program declares area() as abstract inside Figure. This means that all classes derived from Figure must override area().

```
 \{ AbstractAreas.java \} \equiv \\ < AbstractAreas \ Abstract \ Class \ Figure > \\ < FindAreas \ SubClass \ Rectangle > \\ < FindAreas \ SubClass \ Triangle > \\ < AbstractAreas \ Main \ Class > \\
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

4.7.1.1 AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure Section

Notice that much of this class stays the same as the original Figure code, but includes two abstract declarations, one for the class, and one for the area() method declaration.

```
<AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure > ≡
   abstract class Figure {
      <Figure Instance Variable Declarations >
       <Figure Constructor >
        <AbstractAreas Abstract Area Method Declaration >
}
```

This chunk is called by {AbstractAreas.java }; see its first definition at "Improved Figure Class", page 27. The following table lists called chunk definition points.

AbstractAreas Abstract Area Method Declaration

```
<AbstractAreas Abstract Area Method Declaration > =
// areas is now an abstract method
abstract double area ();
```

This chunk is called by *AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure >*; see its first definition at "AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure Section", page 27.

4.7.1.2 Abstract Main Class

```
<AbstractAreas\ Main\ Class> \equiv class AbstractAreas { <AbstractAreas\ Main\ Method\ Declaration>
```

}

This chunk is called by {AbstractAreas.java }; see its first definition at "Improved Figure Class", page 27.

The called chunk < AbstractAreas Main Method Declaration > is first defined at "Abstract Main Class", page 28.

AbstractAreas Main Method Declaration

```
<AbstractAreas Main Method Declaration > ≡

public static void main (String[] args) {
        <Create Basic Figure Objects Except Figure >
        <Create Basic Figure Reference Variable >
        <Call Overridden Methods One By One Except Figure >
}
```

This chunk is called by <AbstractAreas Main Class >; see its first definition at "Abstract Main Class", page 27.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

Call Overridden Methods One By
One Except Figure >

Create Basic Figure Objects Except
Figure >

Create Basic Figure Reference Variable >

Create Basic Figure Reference Variable >

First definition point
See "Abstract Main Class", page 28.

See "Abstract Main Class", page 28.

See "FindAreas Main Class Section", page 25.
```

Create Basic Figure Objects Except Figure

The only difference here is that because the superclass Figure is now abstract, it cannot be instantiated using new. It can, however, be used as a reference variable, and so the declaration Figure figref; is still valid and does not change from the prior implementation. This is the essence of run-time polymorphism and dynamic method dispatch.

```
<Create Basic Figure Objects Except Figure > =
   // abstract class Figure cannot be instantiated
   // Figure f = new Figure (10, 10);
   Rectangle r = new Rectangle (9, 5);
   Triangle t = new Triangle (10, 8);
```

This chunk is called by *AbstractAreas Main Method Declaration* >; see its first definition at "Abstract Main Class", page 28.

Call Overridden Methods One By One Except Figure

The only difference here is that, because there is no Figure object, it cannot be referenced. <*Call Overridden Methods One By One Except Figure* > ≡

```
figref = r;
System.out.println("Area is " + figref.area());
```

```
figref = t;
System.out.println("Area is " + figref.aread());
// there is no Figure object, so this will not work.
// figref = f;
```

This chunk is called by *AbstractAreas Main Method Declaration* >; see its first definition at "Abstract Main Class", page 28.

4.8 Using final with Inheritance

The keyword final has three uses.

- 1. create the equivalent of a name constant.
- 2. prevent overriding
- 3. prevent inheritance

4.8.1 Using final to Prevent Overriding

There will be times when you want to prevent overriding from occurring. To disallow a method from being overridden, specify final as a modifier at the start of its declaration. Methods declared as final cannot be overridden.

Methods declared as final can sometimes provide a performance enhancement. The compiler is free to *inline* calls to them because it knows they will not be overridden by a subclass. Inlining is an option only with final methods. Normally, Java resolves calls to methods dynamically, at run time. This is called *late binding*. However, since final methods cannot be overridden, a call to one can be resolved at compile time. This is called *early binding*.

4.8.2 Using final to Prevent Inheritance

Sometimes you will want to prevent a class from being inherited. To do this, precede the class declaration with final. Declaring a class as final implicitly declares all of its methods as final also.

4.9 The Object Class

There is one special class, Object, defined by Java. All other classes are subclasses of Object. That is, Object is a superclass of all other classes. This means that a reference variable of type Object can refer to an object of any other class. Also, since arrays are implemented as classes, a variable of type Object can also refer to any array.

Object Methods

Object defines the following methods; this means they are available in every object.

Object clone()

Creates a new object that is the same as the object being cloned.

boolean equals (Object object)

Determines whether one object is equal to another.

void finalize()

Called before an unused object is recycled. (Deprecated by JDK 9).

Class<?> getClass()

Obtains the class of an object at run time.

int hashCode()

Returns the hash code associated with the invoking object.

void notify()

Resumes execution of a thread waiting on the invoking object.

void notifyAll()

Resumes execution of all threads waiting on the invoking object.

String toString()

Returns a string that describes the object.

void wait()

void wait(long milliseconds)

void wait(long millisconds, int nanoseconds)

Waits on another thread of execution

The methods

- getClass()
- notify()
- notifyAll()
- wait()

are declared as final. You may override the others.

However, notice two methods now:

equals() compares two objects; returns true if the objects are equal, and false if not; the precise definition of equality can vary, depending on the type of objects being compared.

toString()

returns a string that contains a description of the object on which it is called; this method is automatically called when an object is output using println(); many classes override this method; doing so allows them to tailor a description specifically for the types of objects that they create.

5 Packages

Packages are containers for classes. They are used to keep the class namespace compartmentalized, i.e., to prevent collisions between file names. Packages are stored in a hierarchical manner and are explicitly imported into new class definitions.

5.1 Introduction to Packages

Java provides a mechanism for partitioning the class namespace into manageble chunks: the *PACKAGE*. The package is both a naming and a visibility control mechanism. In other words, you can use the package mechanism to define classes inside a package that are not accessible by code outside the package; and you can define class members that are exposed only to other members of the same package.

5.2 Defining Packages

To create a package ("define" a package), include the package command as the first statement in a Java source file. Thereafter, any classes declared within that file will belong to the specified package. The package statement defines a namespace in which classes are stored. Without the package statement, classes are put into the default package (which has no name).

General Form of package statement

```
package pkg

GeneralForm 5.1: Package Statement — General Form pkg is the name of the package. For example:

package mypackage;
```

File System Directories

Java uses the file system directories to store packages. Therefore, the .class files for any classes you declare to be part of mypackage must be stored in a directory called mypackage. The directory name must match the package name exactly.

More than one file can include the same package statement. The package statement simply specifies to which package the classes defined in a file belong. It does not exclude other classes in other files from being part of that same package. Most real-world packages are spread across many files.

Hierarchy of Packages

You can create a hierarch of packages. To do so, separate each package name form the one above it by use of a period. The general form of a multileveled package statement is:

```
package pkg1[.pkg2[.pkg3]]
GeneralForm 5.2: Package Statement — Multilevel Form
```

A package hierarchy must be reflected in the file system of your Java development system. For example a package declared as:

```
package a.b.c;
```

needs to be stored in directory a/b/c.

Be sure to choose package names carefully; you cannot rename a package without renaming the directory in which the classes are stored.

5.3 Finding Packages and CLASSPATH

Packages are mirrored by directories. How does the Java run-time system know where to look for packages?

'cwd'

By default, the Java run-time system uses the currect working directory as its starting point. Thus, if your package is in a subdirectory of the current directory, it will be found.

CI.ASSPATH

You can specify a directory path or paths by setting the CLASSPATH environment variable.

-classpath

You can use the -classpath option with java and javac to specify the path to your classes.

module path

Beginning with JDK 9, a package can be part of a module, and thus found on the module path.

Example Finding a Package

Consider the following package specification:

```
package mypack;
```

In order for programs to find mypack, the program can be executed from a directory immediadely above mypack, or the CLASSPATH must be set to include the path to mypack or the -classpath option must specify the path to mypack when the program is run via java.

When the second or third of the above options is used, the class path must not include mypack itself. It must simply specify the path to just above mypack. For example, if the path to mypack is

```
/MyPrograms/Java/mypack
then the class path to mypack is
/MyPrograms/Java
```

5.4 Packages and Member Access

Packages add another dimension to access control. Classes and packages are both means of encapsulating and containing the name space and scope of variables and methods. *Packages* act as containiners for classes and other subordinate packages. *Classes* act as containers for data and code. The class is Java's smallest unit of abstraction. As it relates to the interplay between classes and packages, Java addresses four categories of visibility for class members:

- Subclasses in the same package
- Non-subclasses in the same package

- Subclasses in different packages
- Classes that are neither in the same package nor subclasses

The three access modifiers

- private
- public
- protected

provide a variaty of ways to produce many levels of access required by these categories.

Category	Private	None	Protected	public
Same Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Same package subclass	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Same package non-subclass	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Different package subclass	No	No	Yes	Yes
Different package noni-subclass	No	No	No	Yes

Table 5.1: Package Access Table — Shows all combinations of the access control modifiers

5.5 Importing Packages

Java includes the import statement to bring certain classes, or entire packages, into visibility. Once imported, a class can be referred to directly, using only its name. The import statement is a convenience to the programmer and is not technically needed to write a complete Java program.

In a Java source file, import statements occur immediately following the package statement (if one exists) and before any class definitions. This is the general form of the import statement:

```
import pkg1[.pkg2].(classname \mid *);
GeneralForm 5.3: Import Statement — General Form
```

Here, pkg1 is the name of a top-level package, and pkg2 is the name of a subordinate package inside the outerpackage separated by a dot (.). There is no limit on the depth of a package hierarchy. Finally, you can specify either an explicit classname or a star (*), which indicates that the Java compiler should import the entire package.

```
import java.util.Date;
imort java.io.*;
```

All of the standard Java SE classes included with Java begin with the name java. The basic language functions are stored in a package called java.lang. Normally, you have to import every package or class that you want to use, but since Java is useless without much of the functionality in java.lang, it is implicitly imported by the compiler for all programs. This is equivalent to the following line being at the top of all your programs:

```
import java.lang.*;
```

The import statement is *optional*. Any place you use a class name, you can use its *fully* qualified name, which includes its full package hierarchy.

When a package is imported, only those items within the package declared as public will be available to non-subclasses in the importing code.

6 Interfaces

Using the keyword interface, you can fully abstract a class' interface from its implementation. That is, using interface, you can specify what a class must do, but not how to do it. Interfaces are syntactically similar to classes, but they lack instance variables, and, as a general rule, their methods are declared without any body. Once it is defined, any number of classes can implement an interface. Also, one class can implement any number of interfaces. To implement an interfece, a class must provide the complete set of methods required by the interface. Each class is free to determine the details of its own implementation. By providing the interface keyword, Java allws you to fully utilize the "one interface, multiple methods" aspect of polymorphism.

Interfaces are designed to support dynamic method resolution at run time. Normally, in order for a method to be called from one class to another, both classes need to be present at compile time so the Java compiler can check to ensure that the method signatures are compatible. This requirement by itself makes for a static and nonextensible classing environment. Inevitably in a system like this, functionality gets pushed up higher and higher in the class hierarchy so that the mechanisms will be available to more and more subclasses. Interfaces are designed to avoid this problem. They disconnect the definition of a method or set of methods from the inheritance hierarchy. Since interfaces are in a different hierarchy from classes, it is possible for classes that are unrelated in terms of class hierarchy to implement the same interface. This is where the real power of interfaces is realized.

6.1 Defining Interfaces

An interface is defined much like a class. Here is a simplified general form of an interface definition:

```
access interface name {
  return-type method-name1(parameter-list);
  return-type method-name2(parameter-list);

  type final-varname1 = value
    type final-varname2 = value
    ...
  return-type method-nameN(parameter-list);
  type final-varnameN = value
}
```

GeneralForm 6.1: Interface Definition — Simplified General Form

When no access modifier is included, then default access results, and the interface is only available to other members of the package in which it is declared. When it is declared as public, the interface can be used by code outside its package. In this case, the interface must be the only public interface declared in the file, and the file must have the same name as the interface. The methods that are declared have no bodies. They end with a semicolon after the parameter list. They are, essentially, abstract methods. Each class that includes such an interface must implement all of the methods.

Variable Declarations inside Interfaces

As the general form shows, variables can be declared inside interface declarations. They are implicitly final and static, meaning they cannot be changed by the implementing class. They must also be initialized. All methods and variables are implicitly public.

6.2 Implementing Interfaces

Once an interface has been defined, one or more classes can implement that interface. To implement an interface, include the implements clause in a class definition, and then create the methods required by the interface. The general form of a class that includes the implements clause looks like this:

```
class clasname [extends superclass] [implements interface [, interface. . . ] { class-body }
```

GeneralForm 6.2: Class Implementing Interface — General Form

The methods that implement an interface must be declared public. The type signature of the implementing method must match exactly the type signature specified in the interface definition.

It is both permissible and common for classes that implement interfaces to define additional members of their own.

6.3 Accessing Implementations Through Interface References

You can declare variables as object references that use an interface rather than a class type. Any instance of any class that implements the declared interface can be referred to by such a variable. When you call a method through one of these references, the correct version will be called based on the actual instance of the interface being referred to. This is one of the key features of interfaces. The method to be executed is looked up dynamically at run-time, allowing classes to be created later than the code which calls methods on them. The calling code can dispatch through an interface without having to know anything about the "callee." This process is similar to using a superclass reference to access a subclass object.

6.4 Partial Implementations

If a class includes an interface but does not implement the methds required by that interface, then that class must be declared as abstract. Any class that inherits the abstract class must implement the interface or be declared abstract itself.

6.5 Nested Interfaces

An interface can be declared a member of a class or another interface. Such an interface is called a *member interface* or a *nested interface*. A nested interface can be declared as public, private, or protected. This differs from a top-level interface, which must either be declared as public or use the default access level. When a nexted interface is used

outside of its enclosing scope, it must be qualified by the name of the class or interface of which it is a member. Thus, outside of the class or interface in which a nested interface is declared, its name must be fully qualified.

6.6 Applying Interfaces

See detailed example . . .

6.7 Variables in Interfaces

You can use interfaces to import shared constants into multiple classes by simply declaring an interface that contains variables that are initialized to the desired values. When you include that interface in a class (when you "implement" the interface), all of those variable names will be in scope as constants. If an interface contains no methods, then any class that includes such an interface doesn't actually implement anything. It is as if that class were importing this constant fields into the class name space as final variables.

6.8 Interfaces Can Be Extended

One interface can inherit another by use of the keyword extends. The syntax is the same as for inheriting classes. When a class implements an interface that inherits another interface, it must provide implementations for all methods required by the interface inheritance chain.

6.9 Default Interface Methods

Prior to JDK 8, an interface could not define any implementation whatsoever. This meant that for all previous versions of Java, the methods specified by an interface were abstract, constaining no body. This is the traditional form of an interface. The release of JDK 8 changed this by adding a new capability to interface called the *default method*. A default method lets you define a default implementation for an interface method. It is possible for an interface method to provide a body, rather than being abstract.

A primary motivation for the default method was to provide a means by which interfaces could be expanded without breaking existing code. There must be implementations for all methods defined by an interface. If a new method were added to a popular, widely used interface, then the addition of that method would break existing code because no implementation would be found for that new method. The default method solves this problem by supplying an implementation that willbe used if no other implementation is explicitly provided. Thus, the addition of a default method will not cause preexisting code to break.

Another motivation for the default method was the desire to specify methods in an interface that are, essentially, optional, depending on how the interface is used.

Interfaces Do No Maintain State and Cannot Be Created

It is important to point out that the addition of default methods does not change a key aspect of interface: its inability to maintain state information. An interface still cannot have instance variables, for example. Thus, the defining difference between an interface and a class is that a class can maintain state information, but an interface cannot. Furthermore,

it is still not possible to create an instance of an interface by itself. It must be implemented by a class.

6.10 Use Static Methods in an Interface

Another capability added to interface by JDK 8 is the ability to define one or more static methods. Like static methods in a class, a static method defined by an interface can be called independently of any object. Thus, no implementation of the interface is necessary, and no instance of the interface is required, in order to call a static method. Instead, a static method is called by specifying the interface name, followed by a period, followed by the method name. Here is the general form:

Interface Name.static Method Name

GeneralForm 6.3: Interface Static Method, Calling

Notice that this is similar to the way that a static method in a class is called. However, static interface methods are not inherited by either an implementing class or a subinterface.

6.11 Private Interface Methods

Beginning with JDK 9, an interface can include a private method. A private interface method can be called only by a default method or another private method defined by the same interface. Because a private interface method is specified **private**, it cannot be used by code outside the interface in which it is defined. This restriction includes subinterfaces because a private inteface method is not inherited by a subinterface.

The key benefit of a private interface method is that it lets two or more default methods use a common piece of code, thus avoiding code duplication.

7 I/O

This chapter introduces <code>java.io</code>, which supports Java's basic input/output system, including file I/O. Support for I/O comes from Java's core API libraries, not from language keywords. In this chapter the foundation of this subsystem is introduced so that you can see how it fits into the larger context of the Java programming and execution environment. This chapter also looks at the <code>try-with-resources</code> statement.

7.1 I/O Basics

Most real applications of Java are not text-based, console programs. Rather, they are either graphically oriented programs that rely on one of Java's graphical user interface (GUI) frameworks, such as Swing, the AWT, or JavaFX, for user interaction, or they are Web applications. Text-based console programs do not constitute an important use for Java in the real world. Java's support for console I/O is limited and somewhat awkword to use. Text-based console I/O is just not that useful in real-world Java programming.

Java does, however, provide strong, flexible support for I/O as it relates to files and networks. Java's I/O system is cohesive and consistent. A general overview of I/O is presented here. A detailed description is found in chapters describing the Java Library: See Chapter 15 "java.io — Input/Output", page 89, and See Chapter 16 "NIO", page 90.

7.1.1 Streams

Java programs perform I/O through streams. A stream is an abstraction that either produces or consumes information. A stream is linked to a physical device by the Java I/O system. All streams behave in the same manner, even if the actual physical device to which they are linked differ. Thus, the same I/O classes and methods can be applied to different types of devices. This means that an input stream can abstract many different kinds of input; from a disk file, a keyboard, or a network socket. Likewise, an output stream may refer to the console, a disk file, or a network connection. Java implements streams within class hierarchies defined in the java.io package.

7.1.2 Byte Streams and Character Streams

Java defines two types of streams:

- byte streams
- character streams

Byte streams provide a convenient means for handling input and output of bytes. Byte streams are used when reading or writing binary data. Character streams provide a convenient means for handling input and output of characters. They use Unicode and therefore can be internationalized. In some cases, character streams are more efficient than byte streams.

The original version of Java (Java 1.0) did not include character streams and thus all I/O was byte-oriented. Character streams were added by Java 1.1 and certain byte-oriented classes and methods were deprecated.

At the lowest level, all I/O is still byte-oriented. The character-based streams simply provide a convenient and efficient means for handling characters.

7.1.2.1 The Byte Stream Class

Byte streams are defined by using two class hierarchies. At the top are two abstract classes:

- InputStream
- OutputStream

Each of these abstract classes has several concrete subclasses that handle the differences among various devices, such as disk files, network connections, and memory buffers. The byte stream classes in java.io are shown in Table 7.1.

To use the stream classes, you must import java.io.

BufferedInputStream

BufferedOutputStream

Buffered input and output streams

ByteArrayInputStream

ByteArrayOutputStream

Input and Output streams that read from and write to a byte array

DataInputStream

DataOutputStream

Input and Output streams that contain methods for reading and writing the Java standard data types

FileInputStream

FileOutputStream

Input and Output streams that read from and write to a file

FilterInputStream

FilterOutputStream

Implements InputStream and OutputStream

InputStream

OutputStream

Abstract classes that describe stream input and output

ObjectInputStream

ObjectOutputStream

Input and Output streams for objects

PipedInputStream

PipedOutputStream

Input and Output pipe

PrintStream

Output stream that contains print() and println()

PushbackInputStream

Input stream that allows bytes to be returned to the input stream

SequenceInputStream

Input stream that is a combination of two or more input streams that will be read sequentially, one after the other

Table 7.1: The Byte Stream Classes in java.io

The abstract classes InputStream and OutputStream define several key methods that the other stream classes implement. Two of the most important are:

- read()
- write()

which respectively read and write bytes of data. Each has a form that is abstract and must be overridden by derived stream classes.

7.1.2.2 The Character Stream Class

Character streams are defined by using two class hierarchies. At the top are two abstract classes:

- Reader
- Writer.

These abstract classes handle Unicode character streams. Java has several concrete subclasses of these. The character stream classes in java.io are shown in Table 7.2.

BufferedReader

BufferedWriter

Buffered input and output character streams

CharArrayReader

CharArrayWriter

Input and Output streams that read and write to and from a character array

FileReader

FileWriter

Input and Output streams that read from and write to a file

FilterReader

FilterWriter

Filtered read and writer

InputStreamReader

OutputStreamWriter

Input and Output streams that translate bytes to characters

LineNumberReader

Input stream that counts lines

PipedReader

PipedWriter

Input and Output pipes

PrintWriter

Output stream that contains print() and println()

PushbackReader

Input stream that allows characters to be return to the input stream

Reader

Writer Abstract clases the describe character stream input and output

StringReader

StringWriter

Input and output streams that read from and write to a string

Table 7.2: The Character Stream I/O Classes in java.io

The abstract classes Reader and Writer define several key methods that the other stream classes implement. Two of the most important methods are:

- read()
- write()

which read and write characters of data, respectively. Each has a form that is abstract and must be overridden by derived stream classes.

7.1.2.3 The Predefined Streams

The java.lang package defines a class called System, which encapsulates several aspects of the run-time environment. System contains three predefined stream variables:

- 1. in (standard input), an object of type InputStream
- 2. out (standard output), an object of type PrintStream
- 3. err (standard error), an object of type PrintStream

These fields are declared as public, static, and final within System. This means that they can be used by any other part of your program and without reference to a specific System object. While these are all byte streams, they can be wrapped within character-based streams, if desired.

7.2 Reading Console Input

For commercial applications, the preferred method of reading console input is to use a character-oriented stream. This makes your program easier to internationalize and maintain.

System.in Wrapped in BufferedReader

Console input is accomplished by reading from System.in To obtain a character-based stream that is attached to the console, wrap System.in in a BufferedReader object. BufferedReader supports a buffered input stream. A commonly-used constructor is:

BufferedReader(Reader inputReader)

Here, *inputReader* is the stream that is linked to the instance of BufferedReader that is being created. Reader is the abstract class. One of its concrete subclasses is InputStreamReader, which converts bytes to characters. To obtain a InputStreamReader object that is linked to System.in, use the following constructor:

InputStreamReader(InputStream inputStream)

Because System.in refers to an object of type InputStream, it can be used for *inputStream*. Putting it all together, the following line of code creates a BufferedReader that is connected to the keyboard:

```
BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(
  new InputStreamReader(System.in));
```

After this statement executes, br is a character-based stream that is linked to the console through System.in.

7.2.1 Reading Characters

To read a character from a BufferedReader, use read(). The version of read() that we will be using is

int read() throws IOException

Each time that read() is called, it reads a character from the input stream and returns it as an integer value.¹ It returns -1 when an attempt is made to read at the end of the stream. It can throw an IOException.

Program Demonstrating Reading Characters from Console

The following program demonstrates read() by reading characters from the console until the user types a "q". Any I/O exceptions that might be generated are simply thrown out of main(). In more sophisticated applications, you can handle the exceptions explicitly.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

7.2.1.1 Import java.io

```
<Import java.io> \equiv import java.io.*;
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name
                                      First definition point
{BRRead.java}
                                      See "Reading Characters", page 44.
{BRReadLines.java}
                                      See "Reading Strings", page 45.
                                      See "Demonstration Writing to a File", page 55.
{CopyFile.java}
{CopyFileMultTryWR.java}
                                      See "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 60.
                                      See "Demonstration Using a PrintWriter for Console Output",
{PrinterWriterDemo.java}
{ShowFile.java}
                                      See "Demonstration Reading From a File", page 49.
{ShowFileAlt.java}
                                      See "close() Within finally Block", page 52.
{ShowFileSingleTry}
                                      See "Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try Block",
                                     See "Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File", page 58.
{ShowFileTryWR.java}
```

Note that System.in is line buffered by default; this means that no input is actually passed to the program until the user presses enter. This does not make file particularly valuable for interactive console input.

7.2.1.2 BRRead BufferedReader Constructor Section

```
<BRRead BufferedReader Constructor> ≡

BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(
    new InputStreamReader(System.in));
```

This chunk is called by {BRRead.java}; see its first definition at "Reading Characters", page 44.

7.2.1.3 BRRead Enter Characters Section

```
<BRRead Enter Characters> =
    char c;
    do {
        c = (char) br.read();
        System.out.println(c);
    } while (c != 'q');
```

This chunk is called by {BRRead.java}; see its first definition at "Reading Characters", page 44.

7.2.2 Reading Strings

To read a string frmo the keyboard, use the version of readLine() that is a member of the BufferedReader class. Its general form is:

String readLine() throws IOException

It returns a String object.

Program Demonstrating Reading a String from Console

The following program demonstrates BufferedReader and the readLine() method; the program reas and displays lines of text until the word "stop" is entered.

```
\{ \mbox{BRReadLines.java} \} \equiv $$ < \mbox{Import java.io} $$ $$ \mbox{class BRReadLines } \{ $$ \mbox{public static void main(String[] args) throws IOException } \{ $$ < \mbox{BRReadLines BufferedReader Constructor} $$ < \mbox{BRReadLines Enter Lines} $$ \} $$ $$ \}
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<BRReadLines BufferedReader Constructor

See "BRReadLines BufferedReader Constructor", page 46.

Structor>

<BRReadLines Enter Lines>

See "BRReadLines Enter Lines", page 46.

See "Import java.io", page 44.
```

7.2.2.1 BRReadLines BufferedReader Constructor

```
<BRReadLines BufferedReader Constructor> =
   // create a BufferedReader using System.in
BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(
   new InputStreamReader(System.in))
```

This chunk is called by {BRReadLines.java}; see its first definition at "Reading Strings", page 45.

7.2.2.2 BRReadLines Enter Lines

```
<BRReadLines Enter Lines> \(\)
String str;

System.out.println("Enter lines of text.");
System.out.println("Enter 'stop' to quit.");

do {
    str = br.readLine();
    System.out.println(str);
} while (!str.equals("stop"));
```

This chunk is called by {BRReadLines.java}; see its first definition at "Reading Strings", page 45.

7.3 Writing Console Output

The methods

- print()
- println()

are defined by the class PrintStream (which is the type of object referenced by System.out). Remember, System.out is a byte stream, but is acceptable for simple program output. A character-based alternative is described in the next section.

Because PrintStream is an output stream (type byte) derived from OutputStream (an abstract byte stream class), it also implements the low-level method write(). Thus, write() can be used to write to the console. The simplest form of write() defined by PrintStream is here:

```
void write(int byteval)
```

This method writes the byte specified by *byteval*. Although *byteval* is declared as in integer, only the low-order eight bits are written.

Here is a short example that uses write() to output the character "A" followed by a newline to the screen:

```
//Demonstrate System.out.write()
class WriteDemo {
  public static void main (String[] args) {
   int b;
```

```
b = 'A';
System.out.write(b);
System.out.write('\n');
}
```

7.4 The PrintWriter Class

Using System.out to write to the console is probably best for debugging purposes or for sample programs. For real-world programs, the recommended method of writing to the console when using Java is through a PrintWriter stream. PrintWriter is one of the character-based classes. User a character-based class for console output makes internationalizing your program easier.

7.4.1 PrintWriter Constructors

PrintWriter defines several constructors. Here is one:

PrintWriter(OutputStream outStream, boolean flusingOn)

outputStream is an object of type OutputStream, and flushingOn controls whether Java flushes the output stream every time a println method is called. If flushingOn is true, flushing automatically takes place. If false, flushing is not automatic.

PrintWriter supports print() and println() methods. You can use these methods in the same way you used them with System.out. If an argument is not a simple type, the PrintWriter methods call the object's toString() method and then display the result.

Writing to the Console with a PrintWriter

To write to the console by using a PrintWriter, specify System.out for the output stream and automatic flushing.

```
PrintWriter pw = new PrintWriter(System.out, true);
```

7.4.2 Demonstration Using a PrintWriter for Console Output

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<Import java.io>
<PrintWriterDemo PrintWriter Constructor>
<PrintWriterDemo Printing To Console>

First definition point

See "Import java.io", page 44.

See "PrintWriterDemo PrintWriter Constructor", page 48.

See "PrintWriterDemo Printing To Console", page 48.
```

7.4.2.1 PrintWriterDemo PrintWriter Constructor

```
<PrintWriterDemo PrintWriter Constructor> =
    PrintWriter pw = new PrintWriter (System.out, true);
```

This chunk is called by {PrinterWriterDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Using a PrintWriter for Console Output", page 47.

7.4.2.2 PrintWriterDemo Printing To Console

```
<PrintWriterDemo Printing To Console> =
    pw.println("This is a string");
    int i = -7;
    pw.println(i);
    double d = 4.5e-7;
    pw.println(d);
```

This chunk is called by {PrinterWriterDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Using a PrintWriter for Console Output", page 47.

7.4.3 PrintWriter Concluding Comments

There is nothing wrong with using System.out to write simple text output to the console. Using a PrintWriter makes your real-world applications easier to internationalize. There is no other adavantage gained by using a PrintWriter in the simple programs, however.

7.5 Reading and Writing Files

Java provides a number of class and methods that allow you to read and write files. The purpose of this section is to introduce the basic techniques that read from and write to a file. Although byte streams are used, these techniques can be adapted to the character-based streams.

.....

7.5.1 FileInputStream and FileOutputStream

Two of the most often-used stream classes are:

- FileInputStream
- FielOutputStream

which create byte streams linked to files.

Open a File

To open a file, create an object of one of these clases, specifying the name of the file as an argument to the constructor. We will use the following constructors:

 $\label{lem:file_note} File Input Stream (String \textit{fileName} throws File NotFound Exception File Output Stream (String \textit{fileName} throws File NotFound Exception File NotFound File NotF$

Note that when an output file is opened, any preexisting file by the sam name is destroyed.

Close a File

When you are done with a file, you must close it. This is done by calling the close() method, which is implemented by both FileInputStream and FileOutputStream.

```
void close() throws IOException
```

Closing a file releases the system resources allocated to the file. Failure to close a file can result in "memory leaks" because of unused resources remaining allocated.

AutoClosable Interface

Beginning with JDK 7, the close() method is specified by the AutoCloseable interface in java.lang. AutoCloseable is inherited by the Closable interface in java.io. Both interfaces are implemented by the stream classes, including FileInputStream and FileOutputStream.

Try With Resources

There are two basic approaches you can use to close a file. The first is the traditional approach, in which close() is called explicitly when the file is no longer needed. This is the approach used by all versions of Java prior to JDK 7.

The second is to use the try-with-resources statement added by JDK 7, which automatically closes a file when it is no longer needed. In this approach, no explicit call to close() is executed.

Reading From A File

To read from a file, you can use a version of read() that is defined within FileInputStream. int read() throws IOException

Each time that it is called, it reads a single byte from the file and returns the byte as an integer value. read() returns -1 when an attempt is made to read at the end of the stream.

Writing to a File

To write to a file, you can use the write() method defined by FileOutputStream. Its simplest form is:

```
void write(int byteval throws IOException
```

This method writes the byte specified by *byteval* to the file. Although *byteval* is declared as an integer, only the low-order eight bits are written to th file.

7.5.2 Demonstration Reading From a File

The following program uses read() to input and display the contents of a file that contains ASCII test. The name of the file is specified as a command-line argument.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<Import java.io>
<ShowFile Close a File>
<ShowFile Initial Comments>
<ShowFile Instance Variable Declarations>
<ShowFile Open a File>
<ShowFile Open a File>
<ShowFile Read a File>
<ShowFile Read a File>
<ShowFile Read a File>
<ShowFile Read a File Read a Fil
```

7.5.2.1 ShowFile Initial Comments

```
<ShowFile Initial Comments> ≡

/* Display a text file.
   To use this program, specify the name
   of the file that you want to see.
   For example, to see a file called TEST.TXT,
   use the following command line:

   java ShowFile TEST.TXT
   */
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name
{ShowFile.java}

See "Demonstration Reading From a File", page 49.

ShowFileAlt.java}

See "close() Within finally Block", page 52.

See "Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try Block", page 53.
```

7.5.2.2 ShowFile Instance Variable Declarations

```
<ShowFile Instance Variable Declarations> =
  int i;
  FileInputstream fin;
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name
{ShowFile.java}
See "Demonstration Reading From a File", page 49.
{ShowFileAlt.java}
See "close() Within finally Block", page 52.
{ShowFileSingleTry}
See "Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try Block", page 53.
```

7.5.2.3 ShowFile Open a File

Notice all of the try/catch blocks that handle the I/O errors that might occur. Each I/O operation is monitored for exceptions, and if an exception occurs, it is handled.

<ShowFile Open a File> =

// First, confirm that a filename has been specified.
if (args.length != 1) {
 System.out.printli("Usage: ShowFile filename");
 return;
}

// Attempt to open the file
try {
 fin = new FileInputStream(args[0]);
} catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
 System.out.println("Cannot Open File");
 return;

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

}

```
Chunk name
{ShowFile.java}

See "Demonstration Reading From a File", page 49.

ShowFileAlt.java}

See "close() Within finally Block", page 52.

See "Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try Block", page 53.
```

7.5.2.4 ShowFile Read a File

```
<ShowFile Read a File> \( \) // At this point, the file is open and can be read.
    // The following reads characters until EOF is encountered.
    try {
        do {
            i = fin.read();
            if (i != -1) System.out.print ((char) i);
        } while (i != -1);
    } catch (IOException e) {
        System.out.println("Error Reading File");
    }
}
```

This chunk is called by {ShowFile.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Reading From a File", page 49.

7.5.2.5 ShowFile Close a File

```
<ShowFile\ Close\ a\ File> \equiv // Close the file try {
```

```
fin.close();
} catch (IOException e) {
   System.out.println("Error Closing File");
}
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name First definition point ShowFile.java See "Demonstration Reading From a File", page 49. ShowFileAlt.java See "close() Within finally Block", page 52.
```

7.5.2.6 close() Within finally Block

Although the preceding example closes the file stream after the file is read, there is a variation that is often useful. The variation is to call close() within a finally block. In this approach, all of the methods that access the file are contained within a try block, and the finally block is used to close the file. This way, no matter how the try block terminates, the file is closed.

One advantage to this approach in general is that if the code that accesses a file terminates because of some non-I/O related exception, the file is still closed by the finally block.

Here is how the try block that reads the file can be recode:

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name
                                   First definition point
                                  See "Import java.io", page 44.
<Import java.io>
<ShowFile Close a File>
                                  See "ShowFile Close a File", page 51.
<ShowFile Initial Comments>
                                  See "ShowFile Initial Comments", page 50.
See "ShowFile Instance Variable Declarations", page 50.
tions>
                                   See "ShowFile Open a File", page 51.
<ShowFile Open a File>
<ShowFileAlt Read a File>
                                  See "close() Within finally Block", page 52.
ShowFileAlt Read a File
```

```
<ShowFileAlt Read a File> =
    try {
      do {
        i = fin.read();
```

```
if (i != -1) System.out.print ((char) i);
} while (i != -1);
} catch (IOException e) {
   System.out.println("Error Reading File.");
} finally {
   // Close the file on the way out of the block.
   try {
     fin.close();
} catch (IOException e) {
     System.out.println ("Error Closing File.");
}
```

This chunk is called by {ShowFileAlt.java}; see its first definition at "close() Within finally Block", page 52.

7.5.3 Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try Block

Sometimes it's easier to wrap the portions of a program that open a file and access the file within a single try block (rather than separating the two) and then use a finally block to close the file.

Here is another way to write the ShowFile program:

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

7.5.3.1 ShowFile SingleTry Additional Initial Comment

```
<ShowFileSingleTry Additional Initial Comment> \equiv /* This variation wraps the code that opens and
```

```
accesses the file within a single try block.

The file is closed by the finally block.

*/
```

This chunk is called by {ShowFileSingleTry}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try Block", page 53.

7.5.3.2 ShowFileSingleTry Read a File

In this approach, fin is initialized to null. In the finally block, the file is closed only if fin is not null. This works because fin will be non-null only if the file is successfully opened. Thus, close() is not called if an exception occurs while opening the file.

<ShowFileSingleTry Read a File> \equiv

```
// The following code opens a file, reads characters until EOF
// is encountered, and then closes the file via a finally block.
try {
  fin = new FileInputStream(args[0]);
  do {
    i = fin.read();
    if (i != -1) System.out.print((char) i);
  } while (i != -1);
} catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
  System.out.println("File Not Found.");
} catch (IOException e) {
  System.out.println("An I/O Error Occurred");
} finally {
  // Close file in all cases
  try {
    if (fin != null) fin.close();
  } catch (IOException e) {
    System.out.println("Error Clsoing File");
  }
}
```

This chunk is called by {ShowFileSingleTry}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try Block", page 53.

More Compact Catch Code

It is possible to make the try/catch sequence a bit more compact. Because FileNotFoundException is a subclass of IOException, it need not be caught separately. Here is the sequence recoded to eliminate catching FileNotFoundException. In this case, the standard exception message, which describes the error, is displayed.

```
} catch (IOException e) {
   System.out.println("I/O Error: " + e);
} finally {
   try {
     if (fin != null) fin.close();
   } catch (IOException e) {
     System.out.println("Error Closing File");
   }
}
```

In this approach, any error, including an error opening the file, is simply handled by the single catch statement. This approach may not be appropriate in cases in which you want to deal separately with a failure to open a file, such as might be caused by a mistyped filename. In such a situation, you might want to prompt for the correct name before entering a try block that accesses the file.

The next example uses write() to copy a file.

7.5.4 Demonstration Writing to a File

This example uses write() to copy a file.

Notice that all potential I/O errors are handled in the programs by the use of exceptions. This differs from some computer languages that use error codes to report file errors. They enable Java to easily differentiate the end-of-file condition from file errors when input is being performed.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<CopyFile Check For 2 Files>
<CopyFile Copy a File>
See "CopyFile Check for 2 Files", page 56.

<CopyFile Initial Comments>
<CopyFile Initial Comments>
<CopyFile Instance Variable Declarations>

<Import java.io>

First definition point
See "CopyFile Check for 2 Files", page 56.
See "CopyFile Copy a File", page 56.
See "CopyFile Initial Comments", page 55.
See "CopyFile Instance Variable Declarations", page 56.

See "Import java.io", page 44.
```

7.5.4.1 CopyFile Initial Comments

```
of the source file and the destination file. For example, to copy a file called FIRST.TXT to a file called SECOND.TXT, use the following command line.

java CopyFile FIRST.TXT SECOND.TXT
```

This chunk is called by {CopyFile.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Writing to a File", page 55.

7.5.4.2 CopyFile Instance Variable Declarations

```
<CopyFile Instance Variable Declarations> =
  int i;
  FileInputStream fin = null;
  FileOutputStream fout = null;
```

This chunk is called by {CopyFile.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Writing to a File", page 55.

7.5.4.3 CopyFile Check for 2 Files

```
<CopyFile Check For 2 Files> =
   // First, confirm that both files have been specified
   if (args.length != 2) {
       System.out.println("Usage: CopyFile from to");
       return;
   }
```

This chunk is called by {CopyFile.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Writing to a File", page 55.

7.5.4.4 CopyFile Copy a File

Notice that there are two separate try blocks used when closing the files. This ensures that both files are closed, even if the call to fin.close() throws an exception.

```
<CopyFile Copy a File> \( \) // Copy a file
try {
    // Attempt to open the files
    fin = new FileInputStream(args[0]);
    fout = new FileOutputStream(args[1]);

    do {
        i = fin.read();
        if (i != -1) fout.write(i);
        } while (i != -1);
```

```
} catch (IOException e) {
   System.out.println("I/O Error: " + e);
} finally {
   try {
     if (fin != null) fin.close();
   } catch (IOException e2) {
      System.out.println("Error Closing Input File");
   }

   try {
     if (fout != null) fout.close();
   } catch (IOException e2) {
      System.out.println("Error Closing Output File");
   }
}
```

This chunk is called by {CopyFile.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration Writing to a File", page 55.

7.6 Automatically Closing Files

JDK 7 added a feature that offers another way to manage resources, such as file streams, by automating the closing process. This feature, sometimes referred to as automatic resource management, or ARM for short, is based on an expanded version of the try statement. This form of try is called the try-with-resources statement. The principal advantage of automatic resource management is that it prevents situations in which a file (or other resource) is inadvertently not released after it is no longer needed.

Here is its general form:

```
try (resource-specification) {
  // use the resource
}
```

GeneralForm 7.1: General Form Automatic Resource Management

Typically, resource-specification is a statement that declares and initializes, such as a file stream. It consists of a variable declaration in which the variable is initialized with a reference to the object begin managed. When the try block ends, the resource is automatically released. In the case of a file, this means that the file is automatically closed. This form of try can also include catch and finally clauses. A resource declared in the try statement is implicitly final. This means that you can't assign to the resource after it has been created. The scope of the resource is limited to the try-with-resources statement.

Beginning with JDK 9, it is also possible for the resource specification of the try to consist of a variable that has been declared and initialized earlier in the program. However, that variable must be effectively final, which means that it has not been assigned a new value after being given its initial value.

AutoCloseable Interface

The try-with-resources statement can be used only with those resources that implement the AutoCloseable interface defined by java.lang. This interface defines the close() method. AutoCloseable is inherited by the Closeable interface in java.io. Both interfaces are implemented by the stream classes. Thus, try-with-resources can be used when working with streams, including file streams.

Multiple Resources

You can manage more than one resource within a single try statement. Simply separate each resource specification with a semicolon.

7.6.1 Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File

Here is a reworked verion of the ShowFile program using try-with-resources.

```
{ShowFileTryWR.java} ≡

    <ShowFileTryWR Initial Comments>
    <Import java.io>
    class ShowFileTryWR {
        public static void main (String[] args) {
            <ShowFileTryWR Instance Variable Declaration>
            <ShowFileTryWR Check CL Args> <Number 1> <ShowFileTryWR Check CL Args End>
            <ShowFileTryWR Open a File TryWR>
        }
    }
}
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name
                                 First definition point
<Import java.io>
                                 See "Import java.io", page 44.
< Number 1 >
                                 See "Check CL Args", page 59.
<ShowFileTryWR Check CL Args>
                                 See "Check CL Args", page 59.
<ShowFileTryWR Check CL Args
                                 See "Check CL Args", page 59.
<ShowFileTruWR Initial Comments>
                                 See "Initial Comments", page 58.
See "Instance Variable Declaration", page 59.
Declaration >
ShowFileTryWR Open a File See "Open a File TryWR", page 59.
TryWR>
```

7.6.1.1 Initial Comments

```
<ShowFileTryWR Initial Comments> ≡

/* This version of teh ShowFile program uses a try-with-resources
    statement to automatically close a file after it is no longer needed.
    */
```

This chunk is called by {ShowFileTryWR.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File", page 58.

7.6.1.2 Instance Variable Declaration

```
<ShowFileTryWR Instance Variable Declaration> =
  int i;
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name First definition point See "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 60. ShowFileTryWR.java See "Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File", page 58.
```

7.6.1.3 Check CL Args

```
<ShowFileTryWR\ Check\ CL\ Args> \equiv // First, confirm that a filename has been specified. if (args.length !=
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name
{CopyFileMultTryWR.java}
{ShowFileTryWR.java}

See "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 60.
See "Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File", page 58.

<Number 1> ≡

1
```

This chunk is called by {ShowFileTryWR.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File", page 58.

7.6.1.4 Open a File TryWR

Pay special attention to how the file is opened within the try statement. The resource-specification portion of the try declares a FileInputStream called fin, which is then assigned a reference to the file opened by its constructor. Therefore, here, the variable fin is local to the try block, being created when the try is entered. When the try is left, the stream associated with fin is automatically closed by an implicit call to close(). Since you don't call close() explicitly, you can't forget to close the file. This is a key advantage of using try-with-resources.

```
<ShowFileTryWR Open a File TryWR> \equiv /* The following code uses a try-with-resources statement to open
```

```
a file and then automatically close it when the try block is left. */
try (FileInputStream fin = new FileInputStream(args[0])) {
   do {
      i = fin.read();
      if (i != -1) System.out.print((char) i);
   } while (i != -1);
} catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
   System.out.println("File Not Found.");
} catch (IOException e) {
   System.out.println("An I/O Error Occurred.");
}
```

This chunk is called by {ShowFileTryWR.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File", page 58.

7.6.2 Demonstration of Multiple Resources

The following program shows an example of handling multiple resources in a single try statement. It reworks the CopyFile program shown earlier so that it uses a single try-with-resources statement to manage both fin and fout.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name
                                     First definition point
<CopyFileMultTryWR Initial Com-</pre>
                                     See "CopyFileMultTryWR Initial Comments", page 61.
<CopyFileMultTryWR Manage Two</pre>
                                     See "CopyFileMultTryWR Manage Two Files", page 61.
Files>
<Import java.io>
                                     See "Import java.io", page 44.
                                     See "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 61.
<Number 2>
                                     See "Check CL Args", page 59.
<ShowFileTryWR Check CL Args>
<ShowFileTryWR Check CL Args See "Check CL Args", page 59.</p>
<ShowFileTryWR Instance Variable See "Instance Variable Declaration", page 59.</p>
Declaration>
```

```
< Number 2> \equiv 2
```

This chunk is called by {CopyFileMultTryWR.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 60.

7.6.2.1 CopyFileMultTryWR Initial Comments

```
<CopyFileMultTryWR Initial Comments> ≡

/* A version of CopyFile that uses try-with-resources.
    It demonstrates two resources (in this case files) being
    managed by a single try statement
    */
```

This chunk is called by {CopyFileMultTryWR.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 60.

7.6.2.2 CopyFileMultTryWR Manage Two Files

Note how the input and output files are opened within the try block. After this block ends, both fin and fout will have been closed. This code is much shorter. The ability to streamline source code is a side-benefit of automatic resource management.

```
<CopyFileMultTryWR Manage Two Files> \( \)
    // Open and manage two files via the try statement.
    try (FileInputStream fin = new FileInputStream(args[0]);
        FileOutputStream fout = new FileOutputStream(args[1])) {
        do {
            i = fin.read();
            if (i != -1) fout.write(i);
        } while (i != -1);
    } catch (IOException e) {
        System.out.println("I/O Error: " + e);
    }
}
```

This chunk is called by {CopyFileMultTryWR.java}; see its first definition at "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 60.

8 Miscellaneous Java Keywords

This chapter looks at several more Java keywords:

- volatile
- \bullet instanceof
- native
- strictfp
- assert
- 8.1 The transient and volative Modifiers
- 8.2 Using instanceof
- 8.3 strictfp
- 8.4 Native Methods
- 8.5 Using assert
- 8.6 Static Import
- 8.7 Invoking Overloaded Constructors Through this()
- 8.8 Compact API Profiles

9 Generics

Generics, introduced in J2SE 5.0, allows a type or method to operate on objects of various types while providing compile-time type safety. It adds compile-time type safety to the Collections Framework and eliminates the need of casting. In other words, generics allow you to abstract over types.

Through the use of generics, it is possible to create classes, interfaces, and methods that will work in a type-safe manner with various kinds of data. Many algorithms are logically the same no matter what type of data they are being applied to. For example, the mechanism that supports a stack is the same whether that stack is storing items of type Integer, String, Object, or Thread. With generics, you can define an algorithm once, independently of any specific type of data, and then apply that algorithm to a wide variety of data types without any additional effort.

Perhaps the one feature of Java that has been most significantly affected by generics is the *Collections Framework*. A *collection* is a group of objects. The Collections Framework defines several classes, such as lists and maps, that manage collections. The collection classes have always been able to work with any type of object. The benefit that generics adds is that the collection classes can now be used with complete type safety.

This chapter describes the syntax, theory, and use of generics. It also shows how generics provide type safety for some previously difficult cases.

9.1 Motivation for Generics

Code Fragment Without Generics

Here is a typical code fragment abstracting over types by using Object and type casting.

```
List myIntList = new LinkedList(); // 1
myIntList.add(new Integer(0)); // 2
Integer x = (Integer) myIntList.iterator().next(); // 3
```

The cast on line 3 is annoying, although essential. The compiler can guarantee only that an Object will be returned by the iterator. This therefore adds both clutter and the possibility of a run-time error.

Code Fragment with Generics

Generics allow a programmer to mark their intent to restrict a list to a particular data type. Here is a version of the same code that uses generics.

```
List<Integer> myIntList = new LinkedList<Integer>(); // 1'
myIntList.add(new Integer(0)); // 2'
Integer x = myIntList.iterator().next(); // 3'
```

In line 1, the type declaration for the variable myIntList specifies that it is to hold a List of Integers: 'List<Integer>'. List is a generic interface that takes a type parameter (Integer). The type parameter is also specified when creating the List object ('new LinkedList<Integer>()'). Also, the cast on line 3 is gone.

So has this just moved the clutter around, from a type cast to a type parameter? No, because this has given the compiler the ability to check the type correctness of the program

at compile-time. When we say that myIntList is declared with type List<Integer>, this tells us something about the variable myIntList, which holds true wherever and whenever it is used, and the compiler will guarantee it. In contrast, the cast tells us something the programmer thinks is true at a single point in the code.

The net effect, especially in large programs, is improved readability and robustness.

9.2 What Are Generics

The term generics means parameterized types. Parameterized types are important because they enable you to create classes, interfaces, and methods in which the type of data upon which they operate is specified as a parameter. Using generics, it is possible to create a single class, for example, that automatically works with different types of data. A class, interface, or method that operates on a parameterized type is called generic, as in generic class or generic method.

Java has always given the ability to create generalized classes, interfaces, and methods by operating through references of type Object. Generics added the type safety that was lacking. They also streamlined the process, because it is no longer necessary to explicitly employ casts to translate between Object and the type of data that is being operate upon. With generics, all casts are automatic and implicit.

9.3 A Simple Generics Example

The following program defines two classes. The first is the generic class Gen, and the second is GenDemo, which uses Gen.

```
{SimpleGenerics.java} ≡

< Class Gen>

< Class GenDemo>
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name First definition point

< Class Gen> See "Class Gen¡T¿", page 65.

< Class GenDemo> See "Class GenDemo", page 66.

9.3.1 Class Gen<T>

This is a simple generic class. The class Gen is declared with a parameter of '<T>':

```
class Gen<T> {
```

'T' is the name of a *type parameter*. This name is used as a placeholder for the actual type that will be passed to **Gen** when an object is created. Thus, 'T' is used within **Gen** whenever the type parameter is needed.

Notice that 'T' is contained within '< >'. This syntax can be generalized. Whenever a type parameter is being declared, it is specified within angle brackets.

Because Gen uses a type parameter, Gen is a *generic class*, which is also called a *parameterized type*.

Outline of Class Gen<T>

Class Gen contains four parts:

- an instance variable declaration
- a constructor
- a method returning the instance variable
- a method describing the type of the instance variable

```
<Class Gen> ≡
    class Gen<T> {
        <Instance Variable ob of Type T>
        <Constructor taking parameter of Type T>
        <Method returning object of type T>
        <Method showing type of T>
}
```

This chunk is called by {SimpleGenerics.java}; see its first definition at "A Simple Generics Example", page 64.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Implementation of Class Gen<T>

'T' is used to declare an object called ob. 'T' is a placeholder for the actual type that will be specified when a Gen object is created. Thus, ob will be an object of the type passed to 'T'.

```
<Instance Variable ob of Type T> \equiv
T ob; // declare an object of type T
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen;T;", page 65.

The Constructor

Here is the constructor for Gen. Notice that its parameter, o, is of type 'T'. This means that the actual type of o is determined by the type passed to 'T' when a Gen object is created. Because both the parameter o and the member variable ob are of type 'T', they will both be the same actual type when a Gen object is created.

```
<Constructor taking parameter of Type T> =
   // Pass the constructor a reference to
   // an object of type T
   Gen (T o) {
     ob = o;
}
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen;T;", page 65.

Instance Methods getob() and showType()

The type parameter 'T' can also be used to specify the return type of a method, as here in getob(). Because ob is also of type 'T', its type is compatible wih the return type specified by getob().

```
<Method returning object of type T> =
   // Return ob
   T getob() {
     return ob;
}
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen; T;", page 65.

The method showType() displays the type of 'T' by calling getName() on the Class object return by the call to getClass() on ob. The getClass() method is defined by Object and is thus a member of all class types. It returns a Class object that corresponds to the type of the class of the object on which it is called. Class defines the getName() method, which returns a string representation of the class name.

```
<Method showing type of T > =
    // Show type of T
    void showType() {
        System.out.println("Type of T is " + ob.getClass().getName();
    }
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen; T;", page 65.

9.3.2 Class GenDemo

The GenDemo class demonstrates the generic Gen class.

But first, take note: The Java compiler does not actually create different versions of Gen, or of any other generic class. The compiler removes all generic type information, substituting the necessary casts, to make your code behave as if a specific version of Gen were created. There is really only one version of Gen that actually exists.

The process of removing generic type information is called *type erasure*.

GenDemo first creates a version of Gen for integers and calls the methods defined in Gen on it. It then does the same for a String object.

```
<Class GenDemo> =
    // Demonstrate the generic class
    class GenDemo {
        public static void main(String args[]) {
            <Create a Gen object for Integers>
            <Create a Gen object for Strings>
        }
    }
}
```

This chunk is called by {SimpleGenerics.java}; see its first definition at "A Simple Generics Example", page 64.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name	First definition point
<pre><create a="" for="" gen="" integers="" object=""></create></pre>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer",
<pre><create a="" for="" gen="" object="" strings=""></create></pre>	page 67. See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type String", page 68.

9.3.2.1 Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer

```
<Create a Gen object for Integers> ≡
     <Integer Type Parameter>
     <Reference to Integer Instance>
     <Show Type>
     <Get Value>
```

This chunk is called by *Class GenDemo*>; see its first definition at "Class GenDemo", page 66.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name	First definition point
<get value=""></get>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 68.
<integer parameter="" type=""></integer>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 67.
<reference instance="" integer="" to=""></reference>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 68.
<show type=""></show>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 68.

Integer Type Declaration

A reference to an Integer is declared in iOb. Here, the type 'Integer' is specified within the angle brackets after Gen. 'Integer' is a type argument that is passed to Gen's type parameter, 'T'. This effectively creates a version of Gen in which all references to 'T' are translated into references to 'Integer'. Thus, ob is of type 'Integer', and the return type of getob() is of type 'Integer'.

```
<Integer Type Parameter> =
Gen<Integer> iOb;
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers>*; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 67.

Reference Assignment

The next line assigns to iOb a reference to an instance of an 'Integer' version of the Gen class. When the Gen constructor is called, the type argument 'Integer' is also specified. This is because the type of the object (in this case iOb to which the reference is being assigned is of type Gen<Integer>. Thus, the reference returned by new must also be of type Gen<Integer>. If it isn't, a compile-time error will result. This type checking is one of the main benefits of generics because it ensures type safety.

Notice the use of autoboxing to encapsulate the value 88 within an Integer object.

```
<Reference to Integer Instance> \equiv iOb = new Gen<Integer>(88);
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 67.

The automatic autoboxing could have been written explicitly, like so:

```
iOb = new Gen<Integer>(Integer.valueOf(88));
```

but there would be no value to doing it that way.

Showing the Reference's Type

The program then uses Gen's instance method to show the type of ob, which is an 'Integer' in this case.

```
<Show\ Type> \equiv iOb.showType();
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 67.

Showing the Reference's Value

The program now obtains the value of ob by assiging ob to an 'int' variable. The return type of getob() is 'Integer', which unboxes into 'int' when assigned to an 'int' variable (v). There is no need to cast the return type of getob() to 'Integer'.

```
<Get Value> \( \)
int v = iOb.getob();
System.out.println("value: " + v);
System.out.println();
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 67.

9.3.2.2 Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type String

```
<Create a Gen object for Strings> \( // \) Create a Gen object for Strings.
Gen<String> str0b = new Gen<String>("Generics Test");

// Show the type of data used by str0b
str0b.showType();

// Get the value of str0b. Again, notice
// that no cast is needed.
String str = str0b.getob();
System.out.println("value: " + str);
```

This chunk is called by *Class GenDemo*; see its first definition at "Class GenDemo", page 66.

9.4 Notes About Generics

9.4.1 Generics Work Only with Reference Types

When declaring an instance of a generic type, the type argument passed to the type parameter must be a reference type. It cannot be a primitive type, such as 'int' or 'char'.

You can use the type wrappers to encapsulate a primitive type. Java's autoboxing and auto-unboxing mechanism makes the use of the type wrapper transparent.

9.4.2 Generic Types Differ Based on their Type Arguments

A reference of one specific version of a generic type is not type-compatible with another version of the same generic type. In other words, the following line of code is an error and will not compile:

```
iOb = strOb; // Gen<Integer> != Gen<String>
```

These are references to different types because their type arguments differ.

9.4.3 Generics and Subtyping

Is the following legal?

```
List<String> ls = new ArrayList<String>(); // 1
List<Object> lo = ls; // 2
```

Line 1 is legal. What about line 2? This boils down to the question: "is a List of String a List of Object." Most people instinctively answer, "Sure!"

Now look at these lines:

```
lo.add(new Object()); // 3
String s = ls.get(0); // 4: Attempts to assign an Object to a String!
```

Here we've aliased 1s and 1o. Accessing 1s, a list of String, through the alias 1o, we can insert arbitrary objects into it. As a result 1s does not hold just Strings anymore, and when we try and get something out of it, we get a rude surprise.

The Java compiler will prevent this from happening of course. Line 2 will cause a compile time error.

The take-away is that, if Foo is a subtype (subclass or subinterface) of Bar, and G is some generic type declaration, it is not the case that G<Foo> is a subtype of G<Bar>.

9.4.4 How Generics Improve Type Safety

Generics automatically ensure the type safety of all operations involving a generic class, such as Gen. They eliminate the need for the coder to enter cases and to type-check code by hand.

9.5 A Generic Class with Two Type Parameters

You can declare more than one type parameter in a generic type. To specify two or more type parameters, use a comma-separated list. When an object is created, the same number of type arguments must be passed as there are type parameters. The type arguments can be the same or different.

9.5.1 Example of Code with Two Type Parameters

```
\{ {\tt TwoTypeParameters.java} \} \equiv $$ < Class TwoGen > $$ < Class SimpGen > $$
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name	First definition point		
$< Class\ SimpGen>$	See "Class SimpGen", page 71.		
< Class TwoGen>	See "Class TwoGen", page 70.		

9.5.1.1 Class TwoGen

```
<Class\ TwoGen> \equiv
<Class\ Declaration>
<Two\ Instance\ Variables\ Declarations>
<Constructor\ of\ Two\ Parameters>
<Instance\ Methods\ Show\ and\ Get>
```

This chunk is called by {TwoTypeParameters.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 70.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Class Declaration

Notice how TwoGen is declared. It specifies two type parameters: 'T' and 'V', separated by a comma. Because it has two type parameters, two type arguments must be passed to TwoGen when an object is created.

```
<Class Declaration> \equiv class TwoGen<T, V> {
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 70.

Instance Variables Declarations

```
<Two Instance Variables Declarations> =
T ob1;
V ob2;
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 70.

Constructor

```
<Constructor of Two Parameters> =
TwoGen(T o1, V 02) {
   ob1 = o1;
```

```
ob2 = o2;
}
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 70.

Instance Methods Show and Get

```
<Instance Methods Show and Get> =
   void showTypes() {
       System.out.println("Type of T is " + ob1.getClass().getName());
       System.out.println("Type of V is " + ob2.getClass().getName());
   }

   T getob1() {
      return ob1;
   }

   V getob2() {
      return ob2;
   }
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*>; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 70.

9.5.1.2 Class SimpGen

Two type arguments must be supplied to the constructor. In this case, the two type parameters are 'Integer' and 'String'.

```
<Class SimpGen> \( \)
    class SimpGen {
        public static void main(String args[]) {
            TwoGen<Integer, String> tgObj =
                new TwoGen<Integer, String>(88, "Generics");

            // Show the types
            tgObj.showTypes();

            // Obtain and show values
            int v = tgObj.getob1();
            System.out.println("value: " + v);

            String str = thObj.getob2();
            System.out.println("value: " + str);
            }
        }
}
```

This chunk is called by {TwoTypeParameters.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 70.

9.6 The General Form of a Generic Class

new class-name < type-arg-list > (cons-arg-list);

The generics syntax shown above can be generalized. Here is the syntax for declaring a generic class:

```
class class-name<type-param-list> { . . .

Here is the full syntax for declaring a reference to a generic class and instance creation:

class-name<type-arg-list> var-name =
```

GeneralForm 9.1: General Form for Declaring and Creating a Reference to a Generic Class

9.7 Bounded Types

Sometimes it can be useful to limit the types that can be passed to a type parameter. Java provides bounded types. When specifying a type parameter, you can create an upper bound that declares the superclass from which all type arguments must be derived. This is accomplished through the use of an extends clause when specifying the type parameter:

```
< T extends superclass>
```

This specifies that T can only be replaced by superclass or subclasses of superclass. Thus, superclass defines an inclusive, upper limit.

Interface Type as a Bound

In addition to using a class type as a bound, you can also use an interface type. In fact, youi can specify multiple interfaces as bounds. Furthermore, a bound can include both a class type and one or more interfaces. In this case, the class type must be specified first. When a bound includes an interface type, only type arguments that implement that interface are legal.

When specifying a bound that has a class and an interface, or multiple interfaces, use the & operator to connnect them.

```
class Gen<T extends MyClass & MyInterface> { ...
```

Any type argument passed to 'T' must be a subclass of MyClass and implement MyInterface.

9.8 Using Wildcard Arguments

9.8.1 Wildcard Motivation

Consider the problem of writing a routine that prints out all the elements in a collection. Here's how you might write it in an older version of the language (i.e., a pre-5.0 release):

```
void printCollection(Collection c) {
    Iterator i = c.iterator();
    for (k = 0; k < c.size(); k++) {
        System.out.println(i.next());
    }
}</pre>
```

And here is a naive attempt at writing it using generics (and the new for loop syntax):

```
for (Object e : c) {
        System.out.println(e);
}
```

The problem is that this new version is much less useful than the old one. Whereas the old code could be called with any kind of collection as a parameter, the new code only takes Collection<Object>, which, as we've just demonstrated, is *not* a supertype of all kinds of collections!

So what is the supertype of all kinds of collections? It's written <code>Collection<?></code> (pronounced collection of unknown), that is, a collection whose element type matches anything. It's called a wildcard type. We can write:

```
void printCollection(Collection<?> c) {
    for (Object e : c) {
        System.out.println(e);
    }
}
```

and now, we can call it with any type of collection. Notice that inside printCollection(), we can still read elements from c and give them type Object. This is always safe, since whatever the actual type of the collection, it does contain objects. It isn't safe to add arbitrary objects to it however:

```
Collection<?> c = new ArrayList<String>();
c.add(new Object()); // Compile time error
```

Since we don't know what the element type of c stands for, we cannot add objects to it. The add() method takes arguments of type E, the element type of the collection. When the actual type parameter is ?, it stands for some unknown type. Any parameter we pass to add would have to be a subtype of this unknown type. Since we don't know what type that is, we cannot pass anything in. The sole exception is null, which is a member of every type.

On the other hand, given a List<?>, we can call get() and make use of the result. The result type is an unknown type, but we always know that it is an object. It is therefore safe to assign the result of get() to a variable of type Object or pass it as a parameter where the type Object is expected.

9.8.2 Wildcard Syntax

Sometimes type safety can get in the way of perfectly acceptable constructs. In such cases, there is a *wildcard* argument that can be used. The wildcard argument is specified by the ?, and it represents an unknown type. It would be used in place of a type parameter, for example:

```
boolean sameAvg(Stats<?> ob) {
  if(average() == ob.average())
    return true;
  return false;
}
```

Here, 'Stats<?>' matches any Stats object (Integer, Double), allowing any two Stats objects to have their averages compared. The wildcard does not affect what type of Stats object can be created. That is governed by the extends clause in the Stats declaration. The wildcard simply matches any *valid* Stats object.

9.8.3 Bounded Wildcards

Wildcard arguments can be bounded in much the same way that a type parameter can be bounded (the *bounded wildcard argument*. A bounded wildcard is especially important when you are creating a generic type that will operate on a class hierarchy.

A bounded wildcard specifies either an upper bound or a lower bound for the type argument. This enables you to restrict the types of objects upon which a method will operate.

Upper Bounded Wildcard

The most common bounded wildcard is the upper bound, which is created using an extends clause. In general, to establish an upper bound for a wildcard, use the following type of wildcard expression:

<? extends superclass>

GeneralForm 9.2: General Form of Upper Bounded Wildcard Syntax

where *superclass* is the name of the class that serves as the upper bound. This is an inclusive clause.

Lower Bounded Wildcard

You can also specify a lower bound for a wildcard by adding a **super** clause to a wildcard declaration. Here is its general form:

<? super subclass>

GeneralForm 9.3: General Form of Lower Bounded Wildcard Syntax

Only classes that are superclasses of *subclass* are acceptable arguments

9.9 Creating a Generic Method

It is possible to declare a generic method that uses one or more type parameters of its own. It is also possible to create a generic method that is enclosed within a non-generic class.

Generalized Form

```
< type-param-list > ret-type meth-name ( param-list ) { . . . }
```

GeneralForm 9.4: General Form for Declaring a Generic Method

9.9.1 Example of Generic Method

The following program declares a non-generic class called GenMethDemo and a static generic method within that class called isIn(). The isIn() method determines if an object is a member of an array. It can be used with any type of object and array as long as the array contains objects that are compatible with the type of the object being sought.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name First definition point 

<GenMethDemo Main> See "GenMethDemo Main", page 75.
<Static Method isIn> See "Method isIn()", page 75.
```

9.9.1.1 Method isIn()

The **type parameters** are declared *before* the return type of the method.

```
<Static Method isIn> =
    static <T extends Comparable<T>, V extends T> boolean isIn(T x, V[] y) {
    for (int i = 0; i < y.length; i++)
        if (x.equals(y[i]) return true;
    return false;
}</pre>
```

This chunk is called by {GenMethDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Generic Method", page 75.

The type T is **upper-bounded** by the Comparable interface, which must be of the same type as T. Likewise, the second type, V, is also **upper-bounded** by T. Thus, V must be either the same type as T or a subclass of T. This relationship enforces that isIn() can be called only with arguments that are compatible with each other.

While isIn() is static in this case, generic methods can be either static or non-static; there is no restriction in this regard.

Explicitly Including Type Arguments

There is generally no need to specify type arguments when calling this method from within the main routine. This is because the type arguments are automatically discerned, and the types of T and V are adjusted accordingly.

Although type inference will be sufficient for most generic method calls, you can explicitly specify the type argument if needed. For example, here is how the first call to <code>isIn()</code> looks when the type arguments are specified:

```
GenMethDemo.<Integer, Integer>isIn(2, nums)
```

9.9.1.2 GenMethDemo Main

```
<GenMethDemo Main> =
   public static void main(String args[]) {
    // call isIn() with Integer type
```

```
Integer nums[] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 };
if ( isIn(2, nums) )
  System.out.println("2 is in nums");
if (@isIn(7, nums))
  System.out.println("7 is not in nums");
System.out.println();
// call isIn() with String type
String strs[] = { "one", "two", "three", "four", "five" };
if ( isIn("two", strs))
  System.out.println("two is in strs");
if (!isIn("seven", strs))
  System.out.println("seven is not in strs");
// call isIn() with mixed types
// WILL NOT COMPILE! TYPES MUST BE COMPATIBLE
// if ( isIn("two", nums))
      System.out.println("two is in nums");
```

This chunk is called by {GenMethDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Generic Method", page 75.

9.10 Generic Constructors

It is possible for constructors to be generic, even if their class is not (see "Class Gen;T;", page 65). The syntax is the same (type parameters come first).

< type-param-list> constructor-name (param-list) { . . .

10 Enumerations

Enumerations were added by JDK 5. In earlier versions of Java, enumerations were implemented using final variables.

An enumeration is a list of named constants that define a new data type and its legal values. In other words, an enumeration defines a class type. An enumeration object can only hold values that were declared in the list. Other values are not allowed. An enumeration allows the programmer to define a set of values that a data type can legally have.

By making enumerations classes, the capabilities of the enumeration are greatly expanded. An enumeration can have:

- constructors
- methods
- instance variables

10.1 Enumeration Basics

An enumeration is created using the enum keyword.

```
enum Apple {
     Jonathon, GoldenDel, RedDel, Winesap, Cortland
}
```

enumeration constants

The enum constants 'Jonathon', 'GoldenDel', etc. are called enumeration constants. The enumeration constants are declared as 'public static final' members of the enum. Their type is the type of the enumeration in which they are declared. These constants are called self-typed, in which "self" refers to the enclosing enumeration.

enumeration objects

You can create a variable of an enumeration type. You do not instantiate an enum using new. Rather, you declare an enum variable like you do for primitive types: 'Apple ap'. Now, the variable ap can only hold values of type 'Apple'.

```
Apple ap;
ap = Apple.RedDel;
The enum type (i.e., Apple) must be part of the expression.
```

Comparing for Equality; Switch

Two enumeration constants can be compared for equality using the == relational operator. Furthermore, an enumneration value can be used to control a switch statement. The enum prefix (type) is not required for switch.

```
switch(ap) {
  case Jonathon: ...
  case Winesap: ...
}
```

Printing Enum Types

When an enumeration object is printed, its name is output (without the enum type): 'System.out.println(ap)' would produce 'RedDel'.

10.2 Enum Methods values() and valueOf()

All enumerations inherit two methods:

```
public static enum-type[]
values ()
[Method on Enum]
```

The values() method returns an array that contains a list of the enumeration constants.

```
public static enum-type
valueOf (String str)
[Method on Enum]
```

The valueOf() method returns the enumeration constant whose value corresponds to the string passed in str.

Examples using values() and valueOf() Methods

'Apple allapples[] = Apple.values();' is an example of using the values() method to populate an array with enumeration constants.

```
for(Apple a : Apple.values()) {
   System.out.println(a);
}
```

is an example of iterating directly on the values() method.

```
Apple ap;
ap = Apple.valueOf("Winesap");
System.out.println("ap contains " + ap);
```

is an example of using the valueOf() method to obtain the enumeration constant corresponding to the value of a string.

10.3 Java Enumerations are Class Types

A Java enumeration is a class type. That is, enum defines a class, which has much the same capabilities as other classes. An enumeration can be given constructors, instance variables, and methods. It can even implement interfaces. Each enumeration constant is an object of its enumeration type. When an enumeration is given a constructor, the constructor is called when each enumeration constant is created. Also, each enumeration constant has its own copy of any instance variables defined by the enumeration.

```
enum Apple {
   Jonathon(10), GoldenDel(9), RedDel(12), Winesap(15), Cortland(8);
   private int price;
   Apple(int p) { price = p; }
   int getPrice() { return price; }
}
class EnumDemo {
```

```
public static void main (String[] args) {
   Apple ap;
}
```

In this example, the enumeration 'Apple' is given an instance variable price, a constructor, and an instance method 'getPrice()'. When the variable 'ap' is declared in 'main()', the constructor for 'Apple' is called once for each constant that is specified. The arguments to the constructor are placed in parentheses after the name of each constant. Thereafter, each enumeration constant has its own copy of 'price', which can be obtained by calling the instance method 'getPrice()'. In addition, there can be multiple overloaded constructors just as for any other class.

Restrictions on Enums

- An enumeration cannot inherit another class.
- An enum cannot be a superclass (enum cannot be extended).

The key is to remember that each enumeration constant is an object of the class in which it is defined.

10.4 Enumerations Inherit Enum

All enumerations automatically inherit from one superclass: java.lang.Enum. This class defines several methods that are available for use by all enumerations.

```
ordinal() and compareTo()
```

```
final int [Method on Enum] ordinal ()
```

The ordinal() method returns a value that indicates an enumeration constant's position in the list of constants, called its *ordinal value*. In other words, calling ordinal() returns the ordinal value of the invoking constant (zero indexed).

```
final int [Method on Enum] compareTo (enum-type e)
```

The ordinal values of two constants can be compared using the compareTo() method. Both the invoking constant and e must be of the same enumeration enum-type. This method returns a negative value, a zero, or a positive value depending on whether the invoking constant's ordinal value is less than, equal to, or greater than the passed-in enumeration constant's ordinal value.

Compare for equality an invoking enum constant with a referenced enum constant.

An invoking enum constant can compare for equality itself with any other object by using equals() or, equivalently, ==, which overrides the equals() method defined in Object. equals() will return true only if both objects refer to the same constant within the same enumeration. (In other words, equals does not just compare ordinal values in general.)



11 String Handling

12 java.lang

Classes and interfaces defined by java.lang, which is automatically imported into all programs. Contains classes and interfaces that are fundamental to all of Java programming. Beginning with JDK 9, all of java.lang is part of the java.base module.

java.lang includes the following classes

- Boolean
- Byte
- Character
 - Character.Subset
 - Character.UnicodeBlock
- Class
- ClassLoader
- ClassValue
- Compiler
- Double
- Enum
- Float
- InheritableThreadLocal
- Integer
- Long
- Math
- Module
 - ModuleLayer
 - ModuleLayer.Controller
- Number
- Object
- Package
- Process
 - ProcessBuilder
 - ProcessBuilder.Redirect
- Runtime
 - RuntimePermission
 - Runtime.Version
- SecurityManager
- Short
- StackFramePermission
- StackTraceElement
- StackWalker

- StrictMath
- String
 - StringBuffer
 - StringBuilder
- System
 - System.LoggerFinder
- Thread
 - ThreadGroup
 - ThreadLocal
- Throwable
- Void

java.lang includes the following interfaces

- Appendable
- AutoClosable
- CharSequence
- Clonable
- Comparable
- Iterable
- ProcessHandle
 - ProcessHandle.Info
- Readable
- Runnable
- StackWalker.StackFrame
- System.Logger
- $\bullet \quad Thread. Uncaught Exception Handler \\$

12.1 Primitive Type Wrappers

Java uses primitive types for 'int', 'char', etc. for performance reasons. These primitives are not part of the object hierarchy; they are passed by-value, not by reference. Sometimes you may need to create an object representation for a primitive type. To store a primitive in a class, you need to wrap the primitive type in a class.

Java provides classes that correspond to each of the primitive types. These classes encapsulate or *wrap* the primitive types within a class. They are commonly referred to as *type wrappers*.

12.1.1 Number

12.1.2 Double and Float

12.1.3 isInfinite() and isNaN()

- 12.1.4 Byte, Short, Integer, Long
- 12.1.5 Converting Numbers to and from String

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16 NIO

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18 Event Handling

19 AWT: Working with Windows, Graphics, and Text

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24 Regular Expressions and Other Packages

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Appendix A The Makefile

```
\{ \mbox{Makefile} \} \equiv $$ < Makefile \ CONSTANTS > $$ < Makefile \ DEFAULTS > $$ < Makefile \ TANGLE \ WEAVE > $$ < Makefile \ CLEAN > $$
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name First definition point < Makefile CLEAN> See "Makefile Clean".

<Makefile CLEAN>
See "Makefile Clean Targets", page 101.
<Makefile CONSTANTS>
<Makefile DEFAULTS>
<Makefile TANGLE WEAVE>
See "Makefile Clean Targets", page 100.
See "Makefile Default Targets", page 100.
See "Makefile Tangle Weave Targets", page 100.

A.1 Makefile Constants

```
<Makefile CONSTANTS> \equiv FILENAME := JavaSE9
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 100.

A.2 Makefile Default Targets

```
< Makefile\ DEFAULTS > \equiv .PHONY: all all: tangle weave
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 100.

A.3 Makefile Tangle Weave Targets

```
<Makefile TANGLE WEAVE> =
    .PHONY: tangle weave jrtangle jrweave
    tangle: jrtangle
    weave: jrweave

jrtangle: $(FILENAME).twjr
    jrtangle $(FILENAME).twjr

jrweave: $(FILENAME).texi

$(FILENAME).texi: $(FILENAME).twjr
    jrweave $(FILENAME).twjr > $(FILENAME).texi
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 100.

A.4 Makefile Clean Targets

```
<Makefile CLEAN> =
    .PHONY: clean
    clean:
        rm -f *~
        rm -f $(FILENAME).???
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 100.

Appendix B Code Chunk Summaries

This appendix presents alphabetical lists of all the file definitions, the code chunk definitions, and the code chunk references.

B.1 Source File Definitions

```
{AbstractAreas.java }
           This chunk is defined in "Improved Figure Class", page 27.
{BRRead.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Reading Characters", page 44.
{BRReadLines.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Reading Strings", page 45.
{CopyFile.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Demonstration Writing to a File", page 55.
{CopyFileMultTryWR.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Demonstration of Multiple Resources", page 60.
{FindAreas.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Applying", page 21.
{GenMethDemo.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Example of Generic Method", page 75.
{Makefile}
           This chunk is defined in "The Makefile", page 100.
{PrinterWriterDemo.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Demonstration Using a PrintWriter for Console
           Output", page 47.
{ShowFile.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Demonstration Reading From a File", page 49.
{ShowFileAlt.java}
           This chunk is defined in "close() Within finally Block", page 52.
{ShowFileSingleTry}
           This chunk is defined in "Demonstration Reading From a File with a Single try
           Block", page 53.
{ShowFileTryWR.java}
           This chunk is defined in "Demonstration of Automatically Closing a File",
           page 58.
{SimpleGenerics.java}
           This chunk is defined in "A Simple Generics Example", page 64.
{Stack.java}
           This chunk is defined in "A Stack Class", page 6.
```

{StackImproved.java}

This chunk is defined in "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

{TestStack.java}

This chunk is defined in "A Stack Class", page 7.

{TwoTypeParameters.java}

This chunk is defined in "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 70.

B.2 Code Chunk Definitions

<AbstractAreas Abstract Area Method Declaration >

This chunk is defined in "AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure Section", page 27.

<AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure >

This chunk is defined in "AbstractAreas Abstract Class Figure Section", page 27.

<AbstractAreas Main Class >

This chunk is defined in "Abstract Main Class", page 27.

<AbstractAreas Main Method Declaration >

This chunk is defined in "Abstract Main Class", page 28.

 $<\!BRRead\; BufferedReader\; Constructor\!>$

This chunk is defined in "BRRead BufferedReader Constructor Section", page 45.

<BRRead Enter Characters>

This chunk is defined in "BRRead Enter Characters Section", page 45.

<BRReadLines BufferedReader Constructor>

This chunk is defined in "BRReadLines BufferedReader Constructor", page 46.

<BRReadLines Enter Lines>

This chunk is defined in "BRReadLines Enter Lines", page 46.

<Call Overridden Methods One By One >

This chunk is defined in "FindAreas Main Class Section", page 25.

<Call Overridden Methods One By One Except Figure >

This chunk is defined in "Abstract Main Class", page 28.

<Class Declaration>

This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 70.

<Class Gen>

This chunk is defined in "Class Gen;T;", page 65.

 $< Class \ GenDemo>$

This chunk is defined in "Class GenDemo", page 66.

 $< Class \ Simp Gen>$

This chunk is defined in "Class SimpGen", page 71.

<Class TwoGen>

This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 70.

<Constructor of Two Parameters>

This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 70.

<Constructor taking parameter of Type T>

This chunk is defined in "Class Gen;T;", page 65.

<CopyFile Check For 2 Files>

This chunk is defined in "CopyFile Check for 2 Files", page 56.

<CopyFile Copy a File>

This chunk is defined in "CopyFile Copy a File", page 56.

<CopyFile Initial Comments>

This chunk is defined in "CopyFile Initial Comments", page 55.

<CopyFile Instance Variable Declarations>

This chunk is defined in "CopyFile Instance Variable Declarations", page 56.

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