

CSE 331 Section 5 Equals & hashCode Worksheet **Sample Solution**

1. Consider the following class `Thing`, which, unfortunately, doesn't properly override `equals`, but overloads it instead.

```
class Thing {
    private int contents;
    public Thing(int value) { this.contents = value; }

    public boolean equals(Thing other) {
        return this.contents == other.contents;
    }
}
```

Now, here is a program that uses class `Thing`. After each `System.out.println` statement, indicate which `equals` method is called (`Object.equals` or `Thing.equals`), and whether the statement prints `true` or `false`. Circle the right choices.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Thing t = new Thing(17);
    Object o = t;
    Thing u = new Thing(17);
    System.out.println(t.equals(o));
    //
    // method called: Object.equals Thing.equals
    //
    // output: true false
    //
    System.out.println(t.equals(u));
    //
    // method called: Object.equals Thing.equals
    //
    // output: true false
    //
    System.out.println(o.equals(u));
    //
    // method called: Object.equals Thing.equals
    //
    // output: true false
    //
    System.out.println(u.equals(o));
    //
    // method called: Object.equals Thing.equals
    //
    // output: true false
    //
    System.out.println(u.equals((Thing) o));
    //
    // method called: Object.equals Thing.equals
    //
    // output: true false
    //
}
```

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2. Here is a small class with a correctly overridden `equals` method.

```
class Blob {
    private int size;   private int weight;   private String color;

    /** equality for Blobs.  Two Blobs are the same
     *  if they have the same size and weight. */
    @Override
    public boolean equals(Object o) {
        if (! (o instanceof Blob)) {
            return false;
        }
        Blob b = (Blob) o;
        return this.size == b.size && this.weight == b.weight;
    }
}
```

Below are five possible `hashCode` functions for `Blob`. For each one indicate if it is incorrect (does not satisfy the specification for `hashCode`), or if it is correct but very poor, or correct and adequate to good. Circle the right answers.

Hints: \wedge is the exclusive-or arithmetic operation. Recall that if `a.equals(b)` is true, then `a.hashCode()` must equal `b.hashCode()`.

```
public int hashCode() { return size; }
```

Not correct Correct but very poor **Correct and adequate to good**

```
public int hashCode() { return color.hashCode(); }
```

Not correct Correct but very poor Correct and adequate to good

```
public int hashCode() { return 42; }
```

Not correct **Correct but very poor** Correct and adequate to good

```
public int hashCode() {
    return size ^ weight ^ color.hashCode();
}
```

Not correct Correct but very poor Correct and adequate to good

```
public int hashCode() { return size ^ weight; }
```

Not correct Correct but very poor **Correct and adequate to good**