



Lecture Participation Poll #22

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Lecture 22: C++ Inheritance

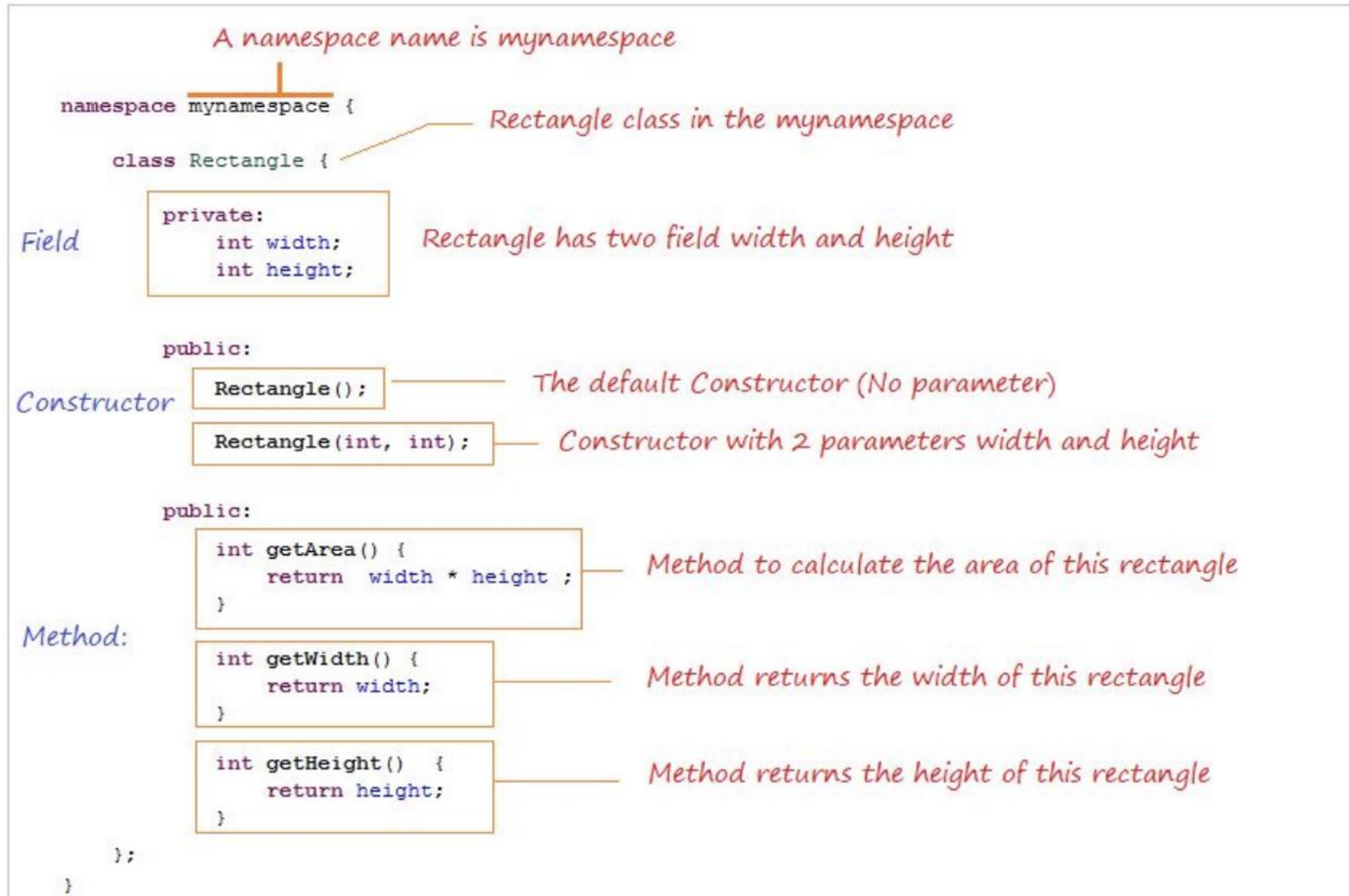
CSE 374: Intermediate
Programming Concepts and
Tools

Administrivia

- HW5 deadline pushed to Wednesday Dec 1st

Anatomy of C++ Class

Rectangle.h



Class Definition (Member declaration)

Point.h

```
#ifndef POINT_H_
#define POINT_H_

class Point {
public:
    Point(const int x, const int y); // constructor
    int get_x() const { return x_; } // inline member function
    int get_y() const { return y_; } // inline member function
    double Distance(const Point& p) const; // member function
    void SetLocation(const int x, const int y); // member function

private:
    int x_; // data member
    int y_; // data member
}; // class Point

#endif // POINT_H_
```

Class Member Definition

Point.cpp

```
#include <cmath>
#include "Point.h"

Point::Point(const int x, const int y) {
    x_ = x;
    this->y_ = y; // "this->" is optional unless name conflicts
}

double Point::Distance(const Point& p) const {
    // We can access p's x_ and y_ variables either through the
    // get_x(), get_y() accessor functions or the x_, y_ private
    // member variables directly, since we're in a member
    // function of the same class.
    double distance = (x_ - p.get_x()) * (x_ - p.get_x());
    distance += (y_ - p.y_) * (y_ - p.y_);
    return sqrt(distance);
}

void Point::SetLocation(const int x, const int y) {
    x_ = x;
    y_ = y;
}
```

Class Usage

usePoint.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
#include "Point.h"

using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    Point p1(1, 2); // allocate a new Point on the Stack
    Point p2(4, 6); // allocate a new Point on the Stack

    cout << "p1 is: (" << p1.get_x() << ", ";
    cout << p1.get_y() << ")" << endl;

    cout << "p2 is: (" << p2.get_x() << ", ";
    cout << p2.get_y() << ")" << endl;

    cout << "dist : " << p1.Distance(p2) << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

To allocate on the heap use the “new” keyword

```
Point* p1 = new Point(1, 2);
```

Constructors in C++

- A constructor (ctor) initializes a newly-instantiated object

- A class can have multiple constructors that differ in parameters
 - Which one is invoked depends on *how* the object is instantiated

- Written with the class name as the method name:

```
Point(const int x, const int y);
```

- C++ will automatically create a synthesized default constructor if you have *no* user-defined constructors
 - Takes no arguments and calls the default ctor on all non-“plain old data” (non-POD) member variables
 - Synthesized default ctor will fail if you have non-initialized const or reference data members

- 4 different types of constructors

- default constructor – takes zero arguments. If you don't define any constructors the compiler will generate one of these for you (just like Java)
- copy constructor – takes a single parameter which is a *const reference*(`const T&`) to another object of the same type, and initializes the fields of the new object as a *copy* of the fields in the referenced object
- user-defined constructors – initialize fields and take whatever arguments you specify
- conversion constructors – implicit, take a single argument. If you want a single argument constructor that is not implicit must use the keyword “explicit” like: `explicit String(const char* raw);`

Overloading Constructors

```
#include "SimplePoint.h"

// default constructor
SimplePoint::SimplePoint() {
    x_ = 0;
    y_ = 0;
}

// constructor with two arguments
SimplePoint::SimplePoint(const int x, const int y) {
    x_ = x;
    y_ = y;
}

void foo() {
    SimplePoint x;           // invokes the default constructor
    SimplePoint y(1, 2);    // invokes the 2-int-arguments ctor
    SimplePoint a[3];       // invokes the default ctor 3 times
}
```


Copy Constructors

- C++ has the notion of a copy constructor (cctor)
 - Used to create a new object as a copy of an existing object
 - Initializer lists can also be used in copy constructors
 - initializes a new bag of bits (new variable or parameter)
 - assignment (=) replaces an existing value with a new one
 - may need to clean up old state (free heap data?)

```
Point::Point(const int x, const int y) : x_(x), y_(y) { }

// copy constructor
Point::Point(const Point& copyme) {
    x_ = copyme.x_;
    y_ = copyme.y_;
}

void foo() {
    Point x(1, 2); // invokes the 2-int-arguments constructor

    Point y(x);   // invokes the copy constructor
    Point z = y;  // also invokes the copy constructor
}
```

Synthesized Copy Constructor

- If you don't define your own copy constructor, C++ will synthesize one for you
 - It will do a *shallow* copy of all of the fields (*i.e.* member variables) of your class
 - Sometimes the right thing; sometimes the wrong thing

```
#include "SimplePoint.h"

... // definitions for Distance() and SetLocation()

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    SimplePoint x;
    SimplePoint y(x); // invokes synthesized copy constructor
    ...
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

When Do Copies Happen?

- The copy constructor is invoked if:

- You *initialize* an object from another object of the same type:

```
Point x;           // default ctor
Point y(x);       // copy ctor
Point z = y;      // copy ctor
```

- You pass a non-reference object as a value parameter to a function:

```
void foo(Point x) { ... }

Point y;           // default ctor
foo(y);           // copy ctor
```

- You return a non-reference object value from a function:

```
Point foo() {
    Point y;       // default ctor
    return y;     // copy ctor
}
```

Initialization Lists

- C++ lets you *optionally* declare an initialization list as part of a constructor definition
 - Initializes fields according to parameters in the list
 - The following two are (nearly) identical:

```
Point::Point(const int x, const int y) {  
    x_ = x;  
    y_ = y;  
    std::cout << "Point constructed: (" << x_ << ", ";  
    std::cout << y_ << ")" << std::endl;  
}
```

```
// constructor with an initialization list  
Point::Point(const int x, const int y) : x_(x), y_(y) {  
    std::cout << "Point constructed: (" << x_ << ", ";  
    std::cout << y_ << ")" << std::endl;  
}
```

Initialization vs Construction

- Data members in initializer list are initialized in the order they are defined in the class, not by the initialization list ordering
 - Data members that don't appear in the initialization list are *default initialized/constructed* before body is executed
- Initialization preferred to assignment to avoid extra steps
 - Never mix the two styles

```
class Point3D {
public:
    // constructor with 3 int arguments
    Point3D(const int x, const int y, const int z) : y_(y), x_(x) {
        z_ = z;
    }

private:
    int x_, y_, z_; // data members
}; // class Point3D
```

First, initialization list is applied.

Next, constructor body is executed.

Destructors

- C++ has the notion of a destructor (dtor)
 - Like “free” in c. In fact, invokes free under the hood to clean up when freeing memory
 - Invoked automatically when a class instance is deleted, goes out of scope, etc. (even via exceptions or other causes!)
 - Do not need to call destructors explicitly
 - Place to put your cleanup code – free any dynamic storage or other resources owned by the object
 - Standard C++ idiom for managing dynamic resources
 - Slogan: “Resource Acquisition Is Initialization” (RAII)

```
Point::~~Point() { // destructor
    // do any cleanup needed when a Point object goes away
    // (nothing to do here since we have no dynamic resources)
}
```


Nonmember Functions

- “Nonmember functions” are just normal functions that happen to use some class
 - Called like a regular function instead of as a member of a class object instance
 - These do *not* have access to the class’ private members
- Useful nonmember functions often included as part of interface to a class
 - Declaration goes in header file, but *outside* of class definition
- A class can give a nonmember function (or class) access to its non-public members by declaring it as a **friend** within its definition
 - Not a class member, but has access privileges as if it were
 - friend functions are usually unnecessary if your class includes appropriate “getter” public functions

```
class Complex {  
    ...  
    friend std::istream& operator>>(std::istream& in, Complex& a);  
    ...  
}; // class Complex
```

Complex.h

Complex.cpp

```
std::istream& operator>>(std::istream& in, Complex& a)  
{  
    ...  
}
```

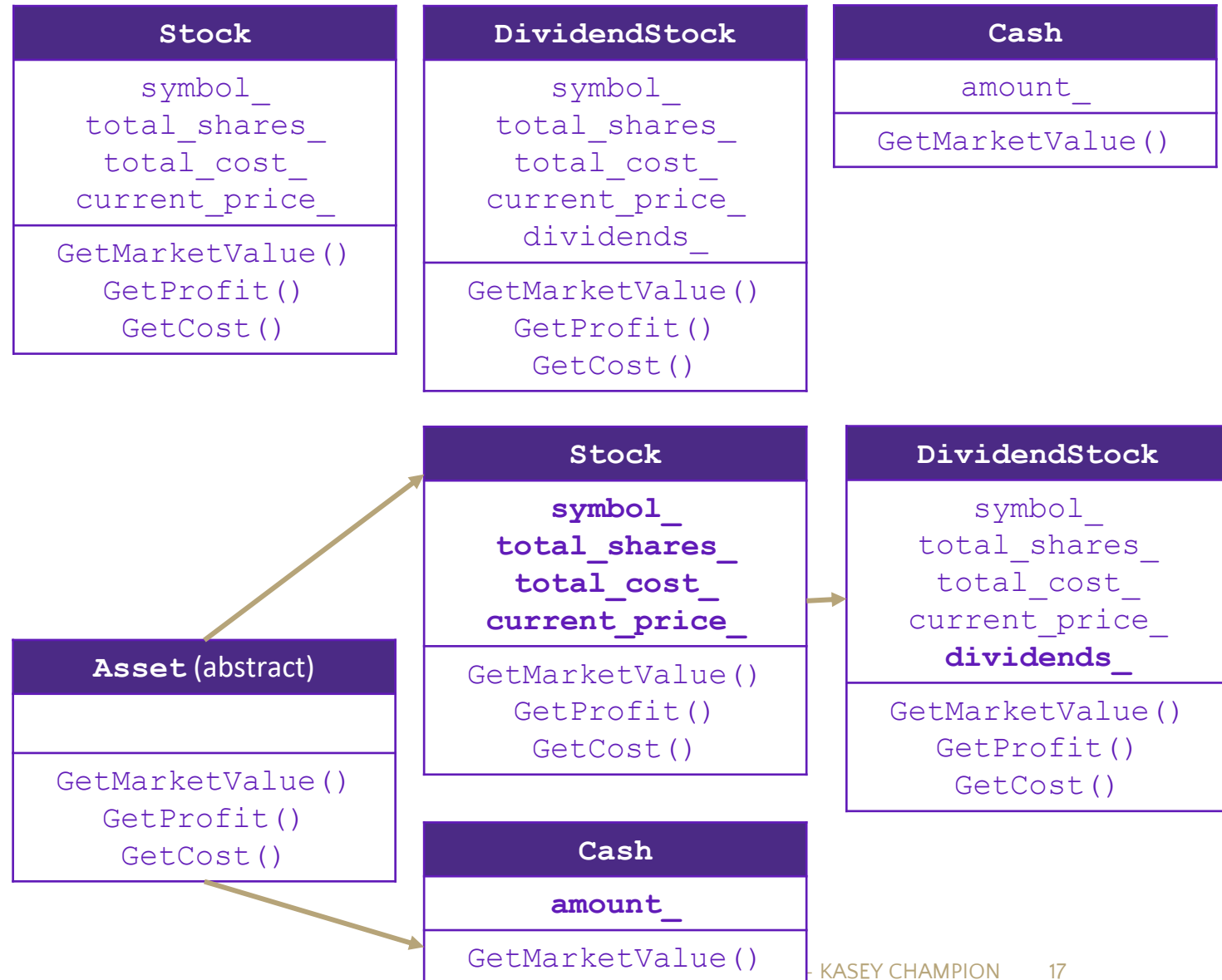
Inheritance in C++

- Inheritance is the formal establishment of hierarchical relationships between classes in order to facilitate the sharing of behaviors
- A parent-child “is-a” relationship between classes
 - A child (**derived class**) extends a parent (**base class**)
- Benefits:
 - Code reuse
 - Children can automatically inherit code from parents
 - Polymorphism
 - Ability to redefine existing behavior but preserve the interface
 - Children can override the behavior of the parent
 - Others can make calls on objects without knowing which part of the inheritance tree it is in
 - Extensibility
 - Children can add behavior

Java	C++
Superclass	Base Class
Subclass	Derived Class

Inheritance Design Example: Stock Portfolio

- A portfolio represents a person's financial investments
 - Each *asset* has a cost (*i.e.* how much was paid for it) and a market value (*i.e.* how much it is worth)
 - The difference between the cost and market value is the *profit* (or loss)
 - Different assets compute market value in different ways
 - A **stock** that you own has a ticker symbol (e.g. "GOOG"), a number of shares, share price paid, and current share price
 - A **dividend stock** is a stock that also has dividend payments
 - **Cash** is an asset that never incurs a profit or loss



Class Derivation List

- Comma-separated list of classes to inherit from:

```
#include "BaseClass.h"

class Name : public BaseClass {
    ...
};
```

- Focus on single inheritance, but *multiple inheritance* possible

```
#include "BaseClass.h"
#include "BaseClass2.h"
class Name : public BaseClass, public BaseClass2 {
    ...
};
```

- Almost always use “public” inheritance
 - Acts like extends does in Java
 - Any member that is non-private in the base class is the same in the derived class; both *interface and implementation inheritance*
 - Except that constructors, destructors, copy constructor, and assignment operator are *never* inherited

- `public`: visible to all other classes
- `protected`: visible to current class and its derived classes
- `private`: visible only to the current class
- Use `protected` for class members only when:
 - Class is designed to be extended by derived classes
 - Derived classes must have access but clients should not be allowed

Inheritance Design Example: Stock Portfolio

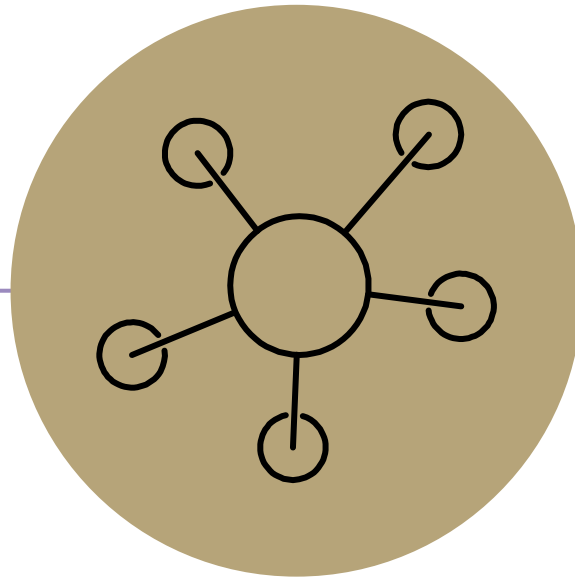


A derived class:

- **Inherits** the behavior and state (specification) of the base class
- **Overrides** some of the base class' member functions (opt.)
- **Extends** the base class with new member functions, variables (opt.)

Polymorphism in C++

- **In Java:** `PromisedType var = new ActualType ();`
 - var is a reference (different term than C++ reference) to an object of ActualType on the Heap
 - ActualType must be the same class or a subclass of PromisedType
- **In C++:** `PromisedType* var_p = new ActualType ();`
 - var_p is a *pointer* to an object of ActualType on the Heap
 - ActualType must be the same or a derived class of PromisedType
 - (also works with references)
 - PromisedType defines the *interface* (i.e. what can be called on var_p), but ActualType may determine which *version* gets invoked



Questions

RAII

- "Resource Acquisition is Initialization"
- Design pattern at the core of C++
- When you create an object, acquire resources
 - Create = constructor
 - Acquire = allocate (e.g. memory, files)
- When the object is destroyed, release resources
 - Destroy = destructor
 - Release = deallocate
- When used correctly, makes code safer and easier to read

```
char* return_msg_c() {  
    int size = strlen("hello") + 1;  
    char* str = malloc(size);  
    strncpy(str, "hello", size);  
    return str;  
}
```

```
std::string return_msg_cpp() {  
    std::string str("hello");  
    return str;  
}
```

```
using namespace std;  
char* s1 = return_msg_c();  
cout << s1 << endl;  
string s2 = return_msg_cpp();  
cout << s2 << endl;
```

Compiler Optimization

- The compiler sometimes uses a “return by value optimization” or “move semantics” to eliminate unnecessary copies
 - Sometimes you might not see a constructor get invoked when you might expect it

```
Point foo() {  
    Point y;           // default ctor  
    return y;         // copy ctor? optimized?  
}  
  
Point x(1, 2);        // two-ints-argument ctor  
Point y = x;         // copy ctor  
Point z = foo();     // copy ctor? optimized?
```

Namespaces

- Each namespace is a separate scope
 - Useful for avoiding symbol collisions!
- Namespace definition:
 - namespace name {
 // declarations go here
}
 - Doesn't end with a semi-colon and doesn't add to the indentation of its contents
 - Creates a new namespace name if it did not exist, otherwise *adds to the existing namespace (!)*
 - This means that components (e.g. classes, functions) of a namespace can be defined in multiple source files
- Namespaces vs classes
 - They seems somewhat similar, but classes are *not* namespaces:
 - There are no instances/objects of a namespace; a namespace is just a group of logically-related things (classes, functions, etc.)
 - To access a member of a namespace, you must use the fully qualified name (*i.e.* nsp_name::member)
 - Unless you are using that namespace
 - You only used the fully qualified name of a class member when you are defining it outside of the scope of the class definition

Const

- C++ introduces the “const” keyword which declares a value that cannot change
- `const int CURRENT_YEAR = 2020;`