Comparators, Iterators, and Iterables

Discussion 04: September 22, 2025

1 Inheritance Syntax

```
Suppose we have the classes below:
public class ComparatorTester {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        String[] strings = new String[] {"horse", "cat", "dogs"};
        System.out.println(Maximizer.max(strings, new LengthComparator()));
    }
}
public class LengthComparator implements Comparator<String> {
    @Override
    public int compare(String a, String b) {
        return a.length() - b.length();
}
public class Maximizer {
     * Returns the maximum element in items, according to the given Comparator.
    // public static <T> T max(T[] items, Comparator<T> c) {
    public static <String> String max(String[] items, Comparator<String> c) {
        int cmp = c.compare(items[i], items[maxDex]);
    }
}
(a) Suppose we omit the compare method from LengthComparator. Which of the following will fail to
    compile?
      OcomparatorTester.java
      O LengthComparator.java
      O Maximizer.java
      O Comparator.java
(b) Suppose we omit implements Comparator<String> in LengthComparator. Which file will fail to compile?
      ComparatorTester.java
       LengthComparator.java
      Maximizer.java
      Comparator.java
```

- $2 \qquad Comparators, \ Iterators, \ and \ Iterables$
- (c) Suppose we removed ${\tt COverride}$. What are the implications?

2 OHQueue

Meshan is designing the new 61B Office Hours Queue. The code below for **OHRequest** represents a single request. It has a reference to the **next** request. **description** and **name** contain the description of the bug and name of the person on the queue, and **isSetup** marks the ticket as being a setup issue or not.

```
public class OHRequest {
    public String description;
    public String name;
    public boolean isSetup;
    public OHRequest next;

public OHRequest(String description, String name, boolean isSetup, OHRequest next) {
        this.description = description;
        this.name = name;
        this.isSetup = isSetup;
        this.next = next;
    }
}
```

- 4 Comparators, Iterators, and Iterables
- (a) Create a class OHIterator that implements an Iterator over OHRequests and only returns requests with good descriptions (using the isGood function). Our OHIterator's constructor takes in an OHRequest that represents the first OHRequest on the queue. If we run out of office hour requests, we should throw a NoSuchElementException when our iterator tries to get another request, like so:

```
throw new NoSuchElementException();
public class OHIterator _____ {
 private OHRequest curr;
 public OHIterator(OHRequest request) {
   -----;
 }
public static boolean isGood(String description) { return description.length() >=
 @Override
 ______{
   while (______) {
   }
   _____;
 }
 @Override
  _____ {
   if (_____) {
     throw _____;
   }
   ____;
   _____;
 }
}
```

(b) Define a class **OHQueue** below: we want our **OHQueue** to be **Iterable** so that we can process **OHRequest** objects with good descriptions. Our constructor takes in the first **OHRequest** object on the queue.

pub	private OHQueue private OHRequest request; public OHQueue(OHRequest request) {	. {
	; }	
	@Override	{
}	}	

(c) Suppose we notice a bug in our office hours system: if a ticket's description contains the words "thank u", it is put on the queue twice. To combat this, we'd like to adjust our implementation of OHIterator's next().

If the current item's description contains the words "thank u", it should skip the next item on the queue, because we know the next item is an accidental duplicate from our buggy system. As an example, if there were 4 OHRequest objects on the queue with descriptions ["thank u", "thank u", "im bored", "help me"], calls to next() should return the 0th, 2nd, and 3rd OHRequest objects on the queue.

To check if a String s contains the substring "thank u", you can use: s.contains("thank u")

6

(d) Now assume the **OHQueue** uses the modified **OHIterator** as its iterator. Fill in the blanks to print only the names of tickets from the queue beginning at **s1** with good descriptions, skipping over duplicate descriptions that contain "thank u". What would be printed after we run the **main** method?

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    null);
    OHRequest s5 = new OHRequest("I deleted all of my files, thank u", "Elana", true,
        OHRequest s4 = new OHRequest("conceptual: what is Java", "Mihir", false, s5);
    OHRequest s3 = new OHRequest("git: I never did lab 1", "Kevin", true, s4);
    OHRequest s2 = new OHRequest("help", "Ethan", false, s3);
    OHRequest s1 = new OHRequest("no I haven't tried the debugger", "Ashley", false,

OHQueue q = ______;

for (________) {
    ______;
}
}
```