Topic 14
Iterators

"First things first, but not necessarily in that order"
-Dr. Who

A Question

```java
public class WordList {
    private ArrayList<String> myList;

    // pre: none
    // post: all words that are exactly len characters long have been removed from
    // this WordList with the order of the
    // remaining words unchanged
    public void removeWordsOfLength(int len){
        for(int i = 0; i < myList.size(); i++){
            if( myList.get(i).length() == len )
                myList.remove(i);
        }
    }
}
```

// original list = ["dog", "cat", "hat", "sat"]
// resulting list after removeWordsOfLength(3) ?

Attendance Question 1

✈ When does method removeWordsOfLength work as intended?
A. Always
B. Sometimes
C. Never

✈ Answer?
```java
public void removeWordsOfLength(int len) {
    Iterator<String> it = myList.iterator();
    while( it.hasNext() )
        if( it.next().length() == len )
            it.remove();
}
```

// original list = ["dog", "cat", "hat", "sat"]
// resulting list after removeWordsOfLength(3) ?
Iterators

- ArrayList is part of the Java Collections framework
- Collection is an interface that specifies the basic operations every collection (data structure) should have
- Some Collections don’t have a definite order – Sets, Maps, Graphs
- How to access all the items in a Collection with no specified order?

Access All Elements - ArrayList

public void printAll(ArrayList list){
    for(int i = 0; i < list.size(); i++)
        System.out.println(list.get(i));
}

- How do I access all the elements of a Set? The elements don’t have an index.
- Iterator objects provide a way to go through all the elements of a Collection, one at a time

Iterator Interface

- An iterator object is a “one shot” object – it is designed to go through all the elements of a Collection once
  – if you want to go through the elements of a Collection again you have to get another iterator object
- Iterators are obtained by calling a method from the Collection

Iterator Methods

- The Iterator interface specifies 3 methods:
  boolean hasNext()
  //returns true if this iteration has more elements
  Object next()
  //returns the next element in this iteration
  //pre: hasNext()
  void remove()
  /*Removes from the underlying collection the last element returned by the iterator.
   pre: This method can be called only once per call to next. After calling, must call next again before calling remove again.
   */
Attendance Question 2

Which of the following produces a syntax error?

ArrayList list = new ArrayList();
Iterator it1 = new Iterator(); // I
Iterator it2 = new Iterator(list); // II
Iterator it3 = list.iterator(); // III

A. I
B. II
C. III
D. I and II
E. II and III

Typical Iterator Pattern

```java
public void printAll(ArrayList list){
    Iterator it = list.iterator();
    Object temp;
    while( it.hasNext() ) {
        temp = it.next();
        System.out.println( temp );
    }
}
```

Typical Iterator Pattern 2

```java
public void printAllTwice(ArrayList list){
    Iterator it = list.iterator();
    while( it.hasNext() )
        System.out.println( it.next() );
    it = list.iterator();
    while( it.hasNext() )
        System.out.println( it.next() );
}
```

A Picture of an Iterator

Imagine a fence made up of fence posts and rail sections.
Fence Analogy

- The iterator lives on the fence posts
- The data in the collection are the rails
- Iterator created at the far left post
- As long as a rail exists to the right of the Iterator, hasNext() is true

```
ArrayList<String> names = new ArrayList<String>();
names.add("Jan");
names.add("Levi");
names.add("Tom");
names.add("Jose");
Iterator<String> it = names.iterator();
int i = 0;
while (it.hasNext()) {
    i++;
    System.out.println(it.next());
}
// when i == 1, prints out Jan
// first call to next moves iterator to next post and returns "Jan"
```

```java
while (it.hasNext()) {
    i++;
    System.out.println(it.next());
}
// when i == 2, prints out Levi
```

Fence Analogy

```java
while ( it.hasNext() ) {
    i++;
    System.out.println( it.next() );
} // when i == 3, prints out Tom
```

```java
// when i == 4, prints out Jose
```

```
"Jan"  "Levi"  "Tom"  "Jose"
```

Fence Analogy

```java
while ( it.hasNext() ) {
    i++;
    System.out.println( it.next() );
} // when i == 3, prints out Tom
```

```java
// when i == 4, prints out Jose
```

```
"Jan"  "Levi"  "Tom"  "Jose"
```

Fence Analogy

```java
while ( it.hasNext() ) {
    i++;
    System.out.println( it.next() );
} // call to hasNext returns false
// while loop stops
```

```
"Jan"  "Levi"  "Tom"  "Jose"
```

Attendance Question 3

What is output by the following code?

```java
ArrayList<Integer> list;
List = new ArrayList<Integer>();
list.add(3);
list.add(3);
list.add(5);
Iterator<Integer> it = list.iterator();
System.out.println(it.next()); System.out.println(it.next());
```

A. 3  B. 5  C. 3 3 5  D. 3 3  E. 3 5
Comodification

- If a Collection (ArrayList) is changed while an iteration via an iterator is in progress an Exception will be thrown the next time the next() or remove() methods are called via the iterator.

```java
ArrayList<String> names = new ArrayList<String>();
names.add("Jan");
Iterator<String> it = names.iterator();
names.add("Andy");
it.next(); // exception will occur here
```

remove method

- Can use the Iterator to remove things from the Collection
- Can only be called once per call to next() public static void removeWordsOfLength(int len) {
  String temp;
  Iterator it = myList.iterator()
  while( it.hasNext() ) {
    temp = (String)it.next();
    if( temp.length() == len )
      it.remove();
  }
}
```

Common Iterator Error

```java
public void printAllOfLength(ArrayList<String> names,
   int len)
{   //pre: names != null, names only contains Strings
   //post: print out all elements of names equal in
   // length to len
   Iterator<String> it = names.iterator();
   while( it.hasNext() ){
     if( it.next().length() == len )
       System.out.println( it.next() );
   }
}
```
```
// given names = ["Jan", "Ivan", "Tom", "George"]
// and len = 3 what is output?
```

The Iterable Interface

- A related interface is Iterable
- One method in the interface:
  public Iterator<T> iterator()
- Why?
- Anything that implements the Iterable interface can be used in the for each loop.
  ```java
  ArrayList<Integer> list;
  // code to create and fill list
  int total = 0;
  for( int x : list )
    total += x;
  ```
Iterable

- If you simply want to go through all the elements of a Collection (or Iterable thing) use the for each loop
  - hides creation of the Iterator

```java
public void printAllOfLength(ArrayList<String> names, int len){
    //pre: names != null, names only contains Strings
    //post: print out all elements of names equal in length to len
    for(String s : names){
        if( s.length() == len )
            System.out.println( s );
    }
}
```

Implementing an Iterator

- Implement an Iterator for our GenericList class
  - Nested Classes
  - Inner Classes
  - Example of encapsulation
  - checking precondition on remove
  - does our GenericList need an Iterator?