J08 Nested Classes

Nested classes

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Nested Classes

A class may be defined within another class. Such a class is called a nested class. The main motivation for nested classes is to improve encapsulation and clarity.

- **Static nested classes** (use static keyword) behave as if declared elsewhere, but happen to be packaged together in a single file, cannot refer directly to instance fields of parent
- **Inner classes** (non-static) has direct access to the instance fields and members of its enclosing class.

Anonymous Inner Classes

An instance of an inner class implementing a specified interface can be created without defining the inner class:

comp = new Comparable<String>() {
 Public int compareTo(String other) { ... };
};