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"Generics" in Java
• Java library includes classes for collections of things (ArrayList, e.g. — like an expandable array). Originally, could put any kind of Object in one of these. Nice, except that then there's no way to know anything about types of objects inside except by using reflection ( <i>much</i> later, if at all) or instanceof operator. Must also use explicit casts to do much with objects retrieved from collection.
• So Java 1.5 (a.k.a 5.0) introduced "generics" — Java's answer to C++ template classes, though not exactly the same. Idea is to allow you to specialize a collection — so, an ArrayList of Integer objects only, o an ArrayList of Account objects only, etc., etc. Syntax uses angle brackets, e.g., an ArrayList that can hold only Accounts:
<pre>ArrayList<account> list = new ArrayList<account>();</account></account></pre>



Other Features of Interest
Enumerations — useful when you want to represent something that has to be one of a fixed number of choices. C allows something similar, but not as nicely packaged.
"For each" loops (no explicit loop counter).
Scanner class that makes reading from standard input easy.
(Examples as time permits.)

## A Little More About Homework 1

 You're not committing yourself to anything at this point, but try to be as detailed as you can — so I can try to spot potential trouble. Also good to think in terms of a basic design (not too ambitious) plus extras. Keep in mind that what you do has to fit into an existing framework. (That's actually one of the pedagogical goals.)

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• What you will actually turn in is HTML documentation of your planned game's main class — put it in your Local/HTML-Documentation and send me mail saying "ready to be graded". (Complete instructions in homework writeup.)

