



























```
Function equals

public class Object {
    /** Return true iff this object is the same as ob */
    public boolean equals(Object b) {
        return this == b;
    }
}

This gives a null-pointer exception:

x.equals(y) is same as
    x == y
    except when x is null!

x ?
Object
Object
```

```
Overriding function equals

Override function equals in a class to give meaning to:

"these two (possibly different) objects of the class have the same values in some of their fields"

For those who are mathematically inclined, like any equality function, equals should be reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

Reflexive: b.equals(b)

Symmetric: b.equals(c) = c.equals(b)

Transitive: if b.equals(c) and c.equals(d), then b.equals(d)
```









