Figure 12.1 The parameters of *main()*.

Recall the famous (infamous?) Java signature:

public static void main (String[] args)

The only part we haven't explained yet is **String[] args**, and now we can.

String[] args is the parameter list for **main**, and there is only one parameter, **args**, which is an array of **String**.

You can print **args** from within **main**:

```
public class Test {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        System.out.print("The array args contains: ");
        for (int i = 0; i < args.length; i++)
            System.out.print(" " + args[i]);
        System.out.println();
    }
}
```

But how does **args** get its values? Who calls **main()**?

Here's how:

Question: Why would you want to do this?