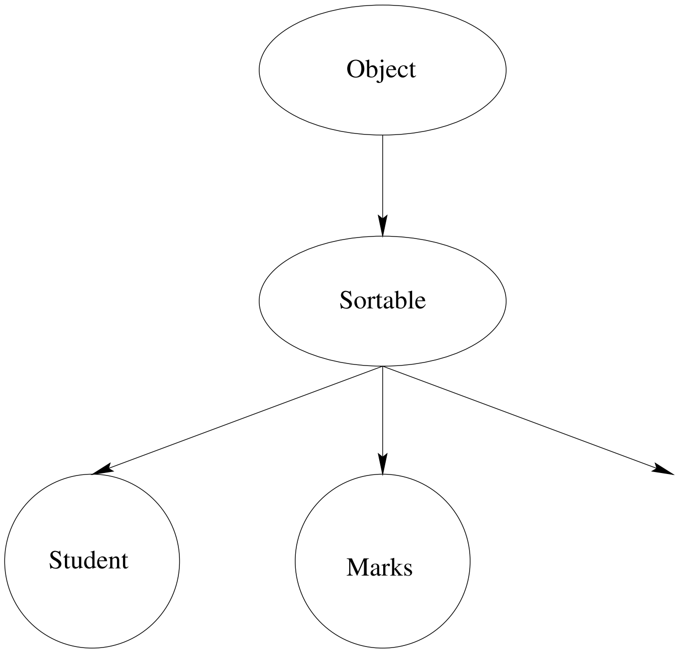
Figure 18.0 Interfaces in Java.

Now our class hierarchy looks like this:




If we do this, however,

- we won't be able to sort **Strings**, or any other pre-existing class, since we can't change their place in the overall hierarchy, and
- we've made **Student** and **Marks** sibling types—they aren't, really.

It's much better to use an $\boxed{\text{interface}}$.

- a Java language notation intended to specify behaviour and no other relationship between classes
- looks like an abstract class in which *all* methods are abstract, so you can leave out the word "abstract"

```
interface Sortable {
    public int compareTo (Sortable other);
}
```