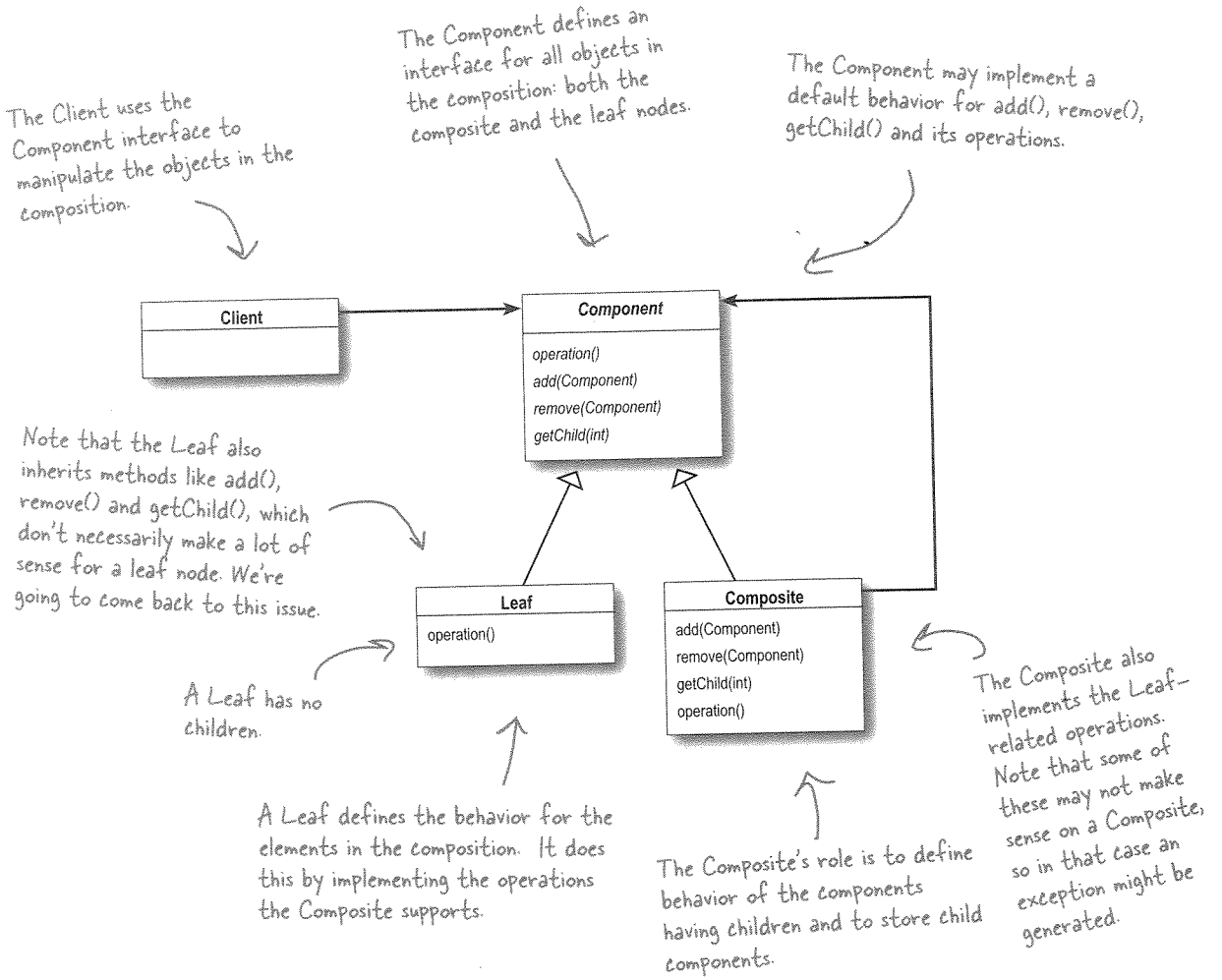

there are no Dumb Questions

Q: Component, Composite, Trees? I'm confused.

A: A composite contains components. Components come in two flavors: composites and leaf elements. Sound recursive? It is. A composite holds a set of children, those children may be other composites or leaf elements.

When you organize data in this way you end up with a tree structure (actually an upside down tree structure) with a composite at the root and branches of composites growing up to leaf nodes.

Q: How does this relate to iterators?

A: Remember, we're taking a new approach. We're going to re-implement the menus with a new solution: the Composite Pattern. So don't look for some magical transformation from an iterator to a composite. That said, the two work very nicely together. You'll soon see that we can use iterators in a couple of ways in the composite implementation.