

Generic methods

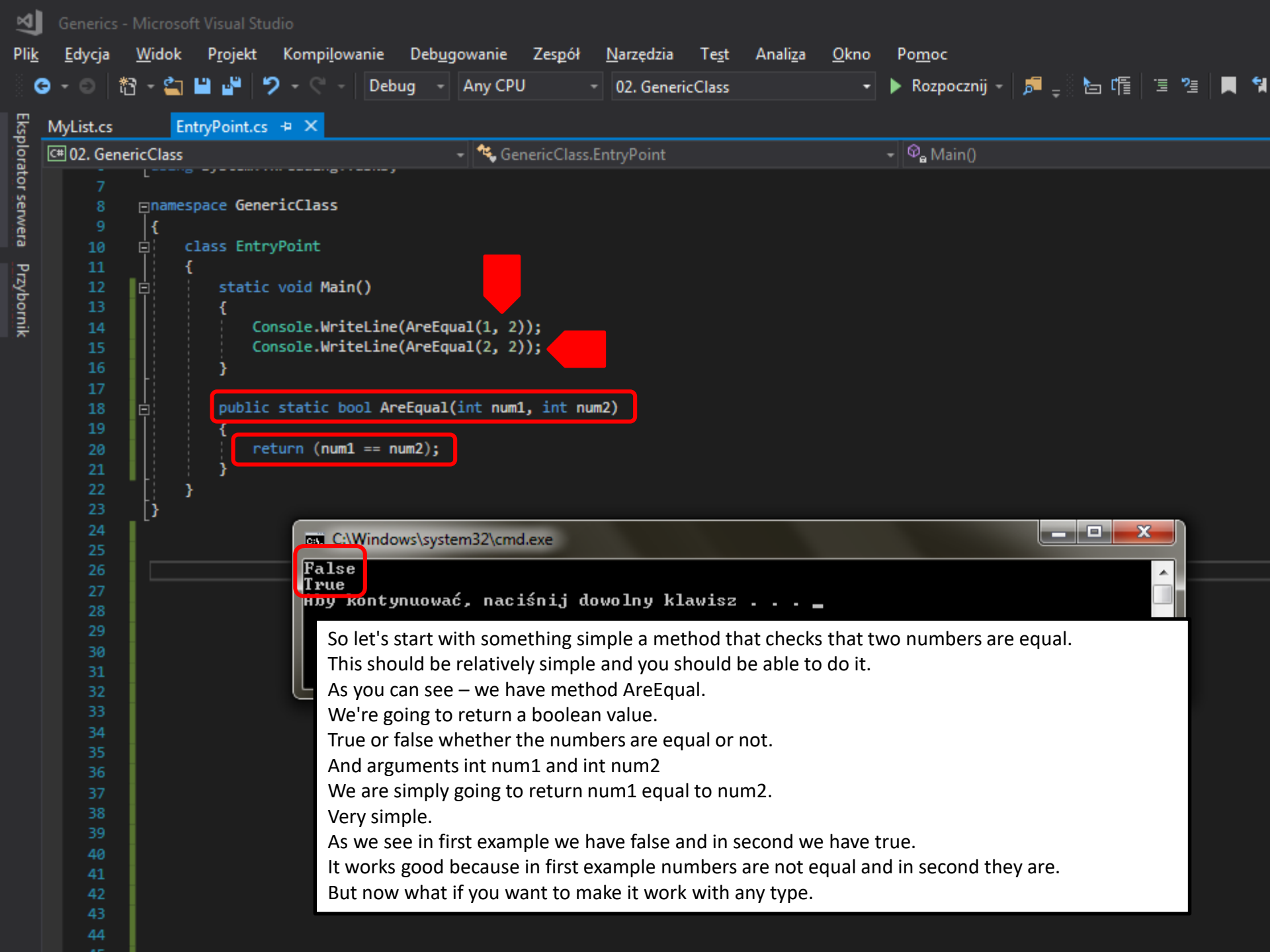
So we are finally in the generics.

At first they look complicated.

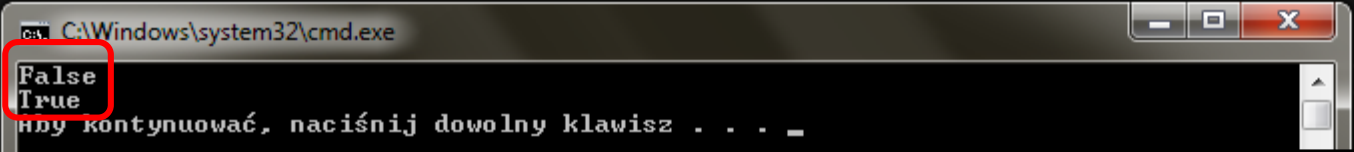
But in reality they really are not.

Generics of course meaning that they can apply to more than one type.

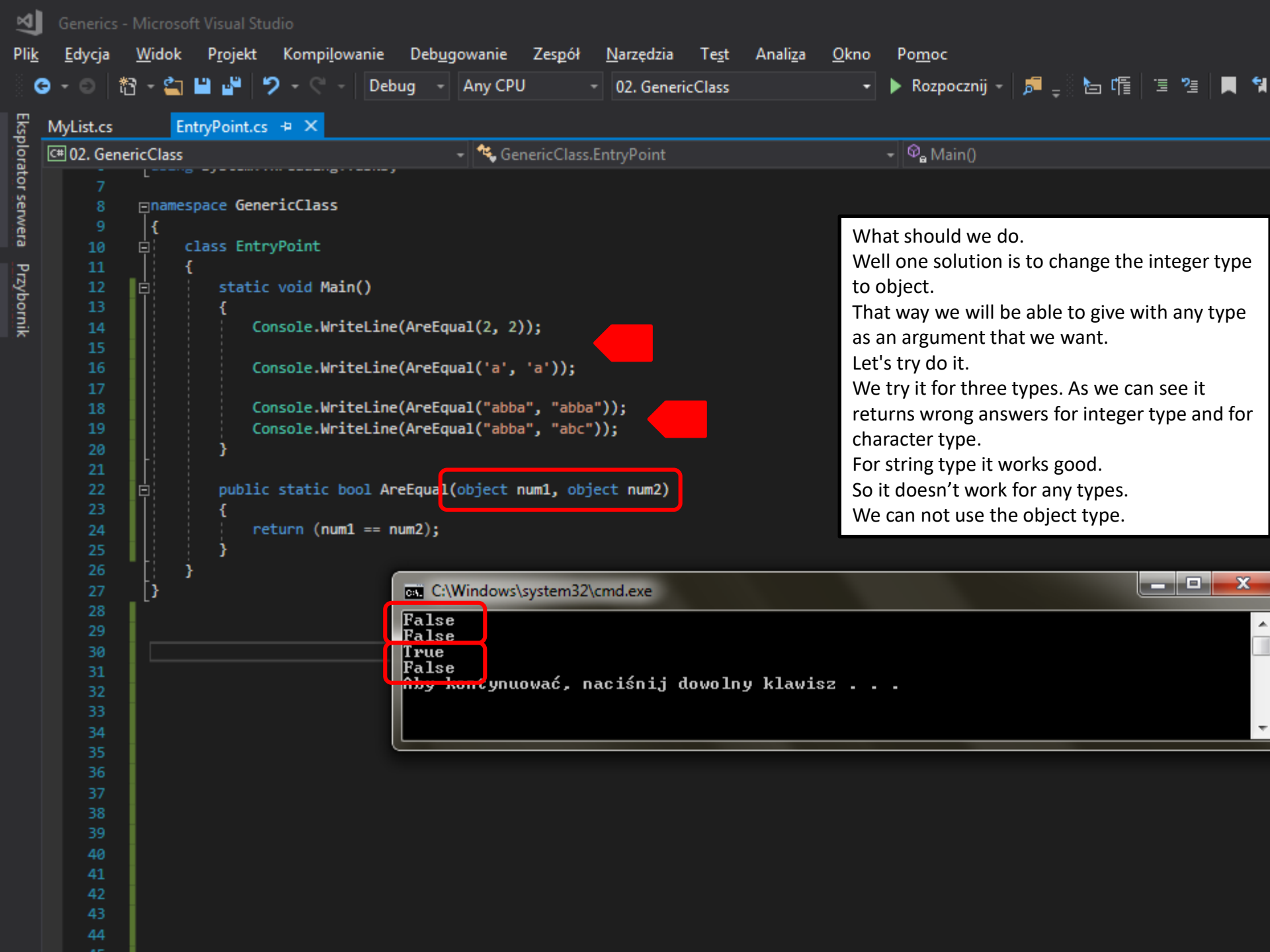
So a method or a class which is generic - can work both for integer type and for string type and for any other type.



```
7
8 namespace GenericClass
9 {
10     class EntryPoint
11     {
12         static void Main()
13         {
14             Console.WriteLine(AreEqual(1, 2));
15             Console.WriteLine(AreEqual(2, 2));
16         }
17
18         public static bool AreEqual(int num1, int num2)
19         {
20             return (num1 == num2);
21         }
22     }
23 }
```

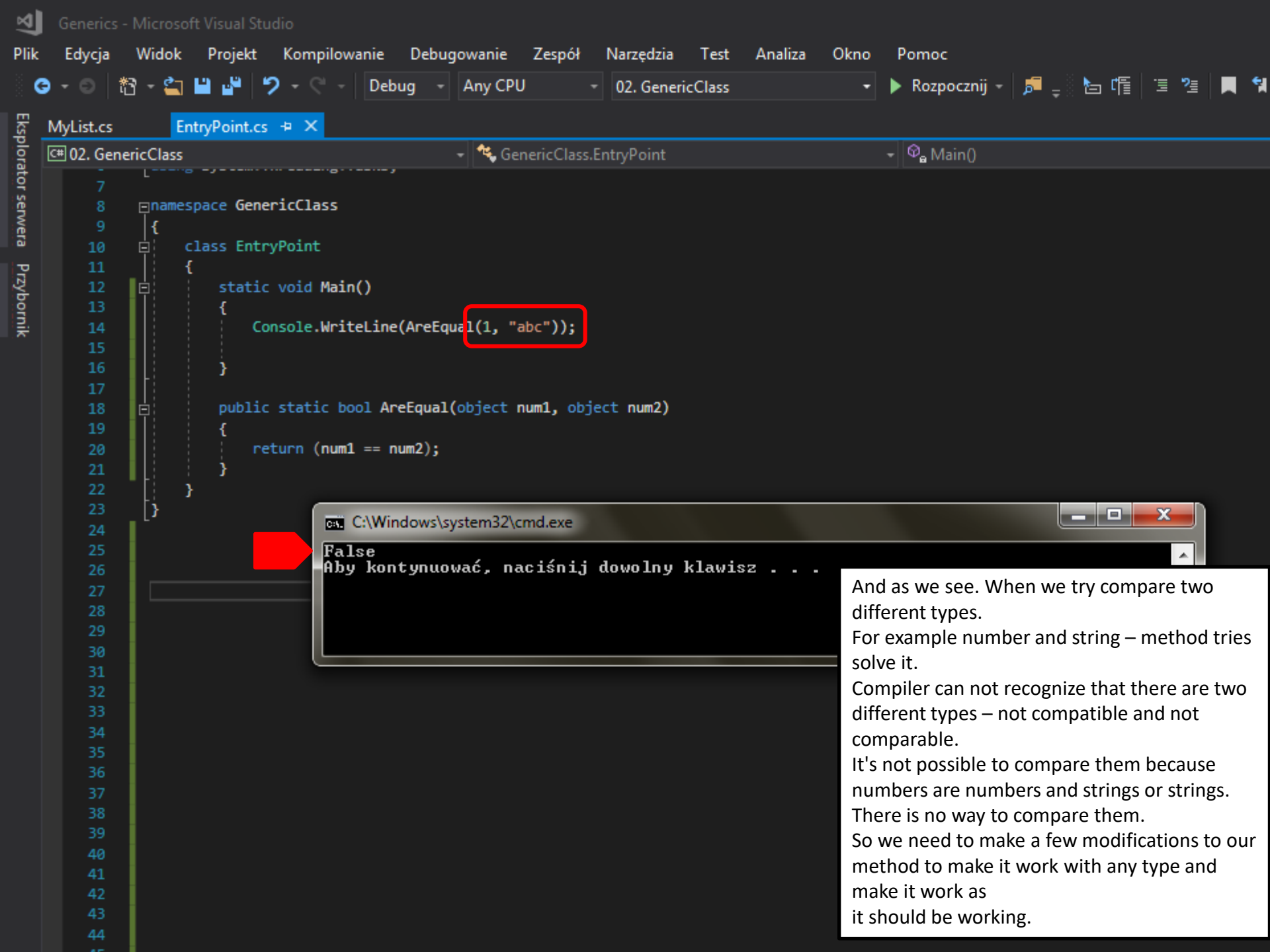


So let's start with something simple a method that checks that two numbers are equal. This should be relatively simple and you should be able to do it. As you can see – we have method AreEqual. We're going to return a boolean value. True or false whether the numbers are equal or not. And arguments int num1 and int num2 We are simply going to return num1 equal to num2. Very simple. As we see in first example we have false and in second we have true. It works good because in first example numbers are not equal and in second they are. But now what if you want to make it work with any type.



What should we do.
Well one solution is to change the integer type to object.
That way we will be able to give with any type as an argument that we want.
Let's try do it.
We try it for three types. As we can see it returns wrong answers for integer type and for character type.
For string type it works good.
So it doesn't work for any types.
We can not use the object type.

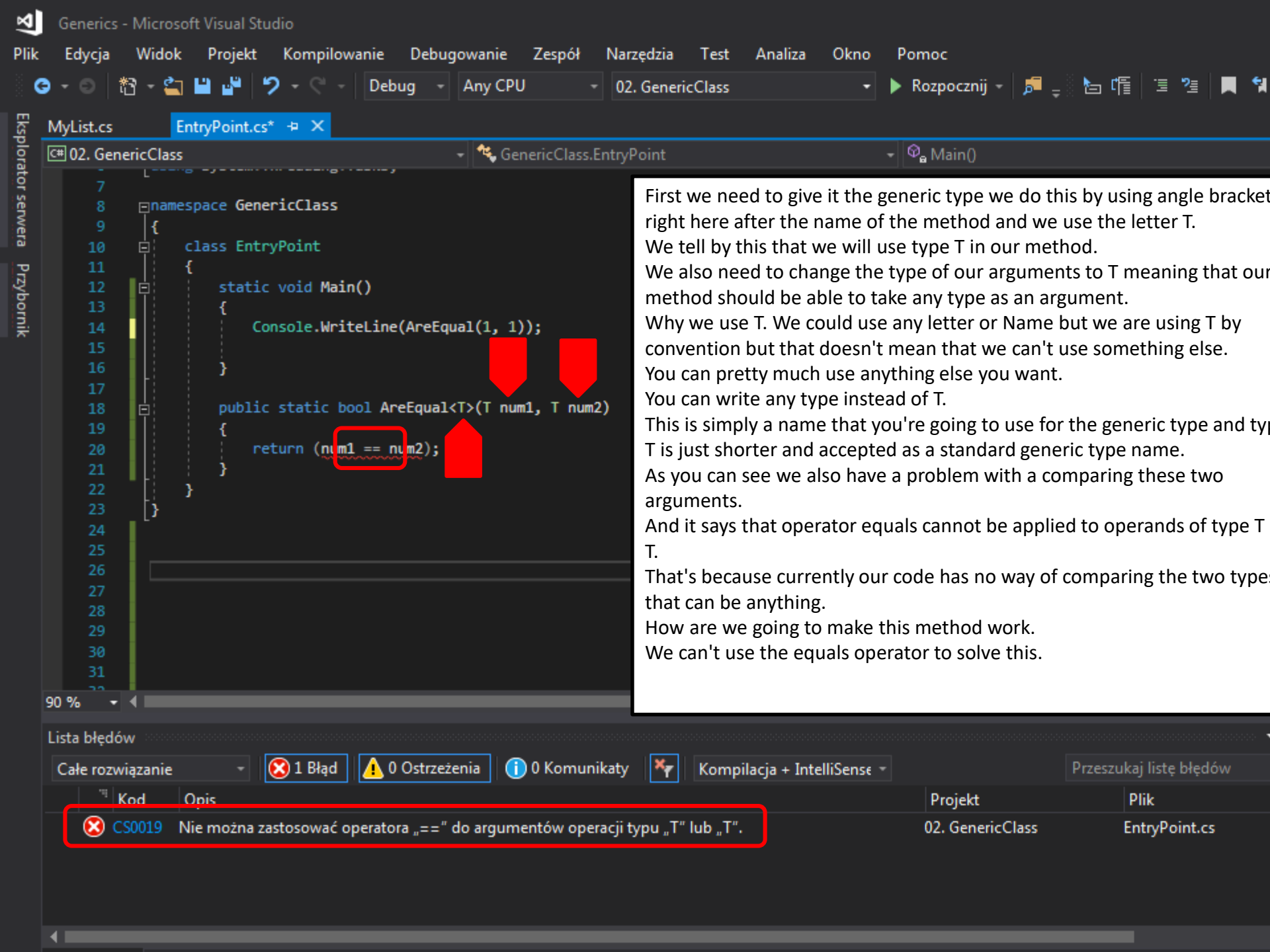
```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
False
False
True
False
Aby kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz . . .
```



```
Console.WriteLine(AreEqual(1, "abc"));
```

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe  
False  
Aby kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz . . .
```

And as we see. When we try compare two different types.
For example number and string – method tries solve it.
Compiler can not recognize that there are two different types – not compatible and not comparable.
It's not possible to compare them because numbers are numbers and strings or strings.
There is no way to compare them.
So we need to make a few modifications to our method to make it work with any type and make it work as it should be working.

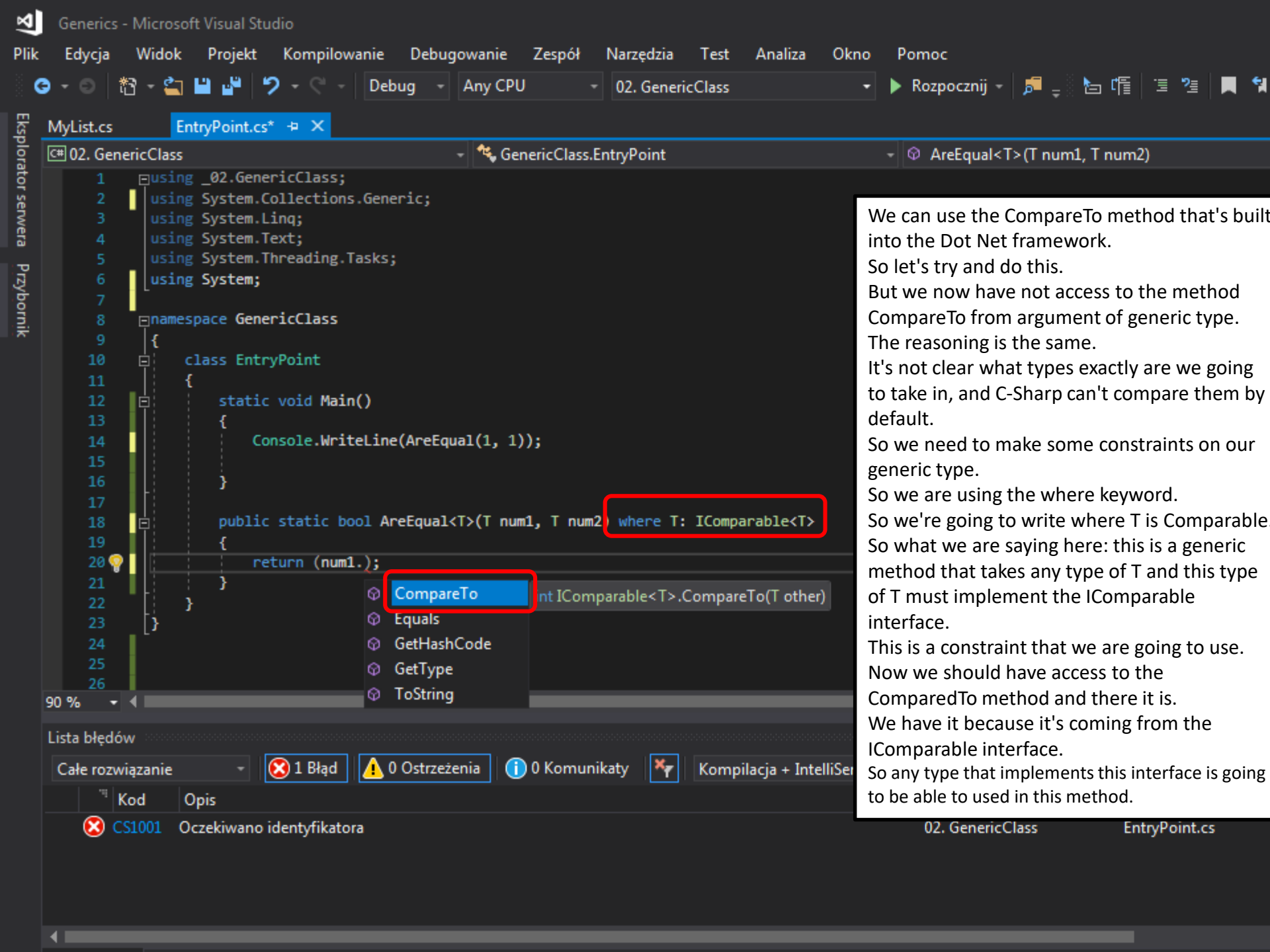


First we need to give it the generic type we do this by using angle bracket right here after the name of the method and we use the letter T. We tell by this that we will use type T in our method. We also need to change the type of our arguments to T meaning that our method should be able to take any type as an argument. Why we use T. We could use any letter or Name but we are using T by convention but that doesn't mean that we can't use something else. You can pretty much use anything else you want. You can write any type instead of T. This is simply a name that you're going to use for the generic type and type T is just shorter and accepted as a standard generic type name. As you can see we also have a problem with a comparing these two arguments. And it says that operator equals cannot be applied to operands of type T. That's because currently our code has no way of comparing the two types that can be anything. How are we going to make this method work. We can't use the equals operator to solve this.

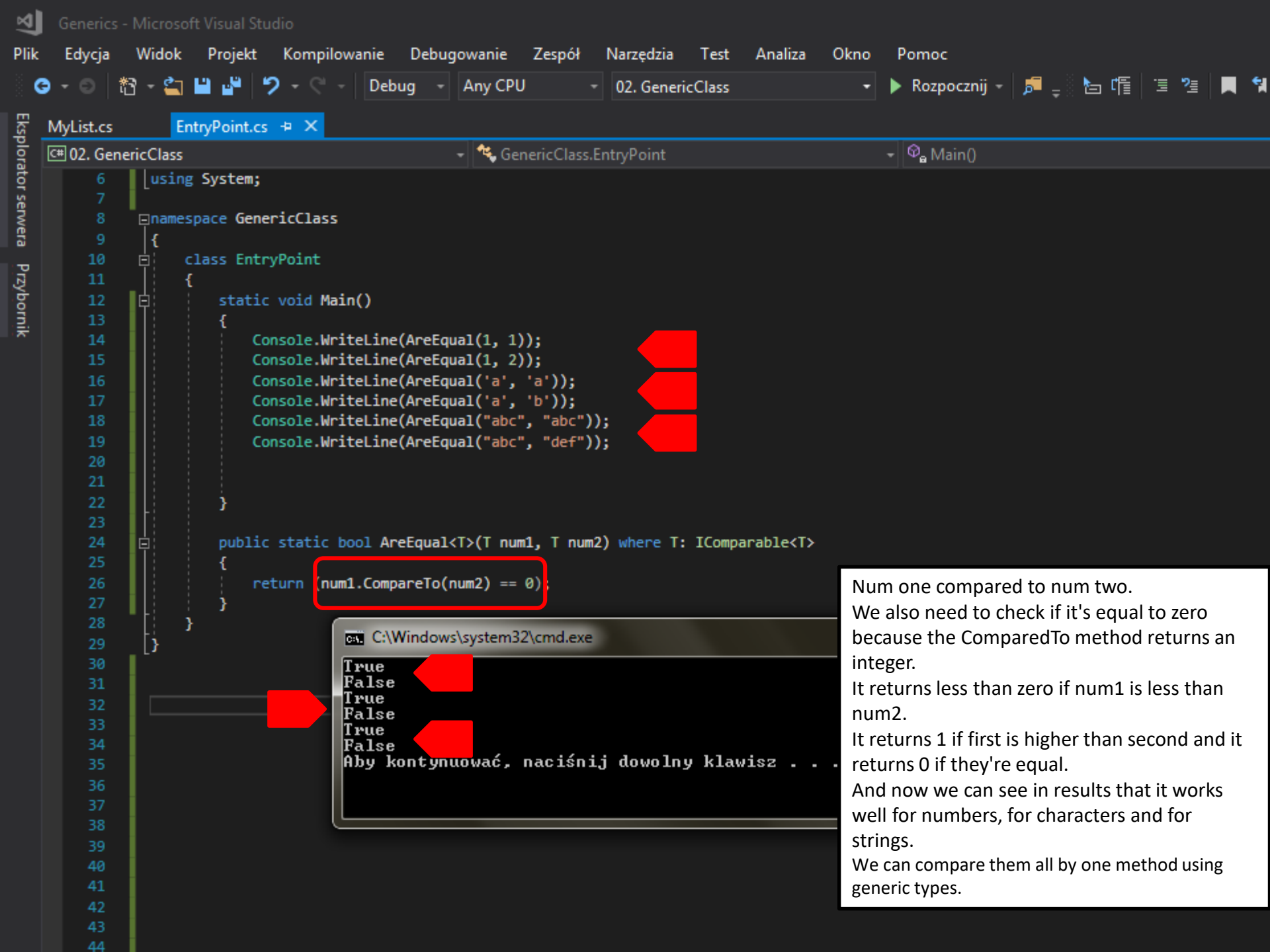
Lista błędów

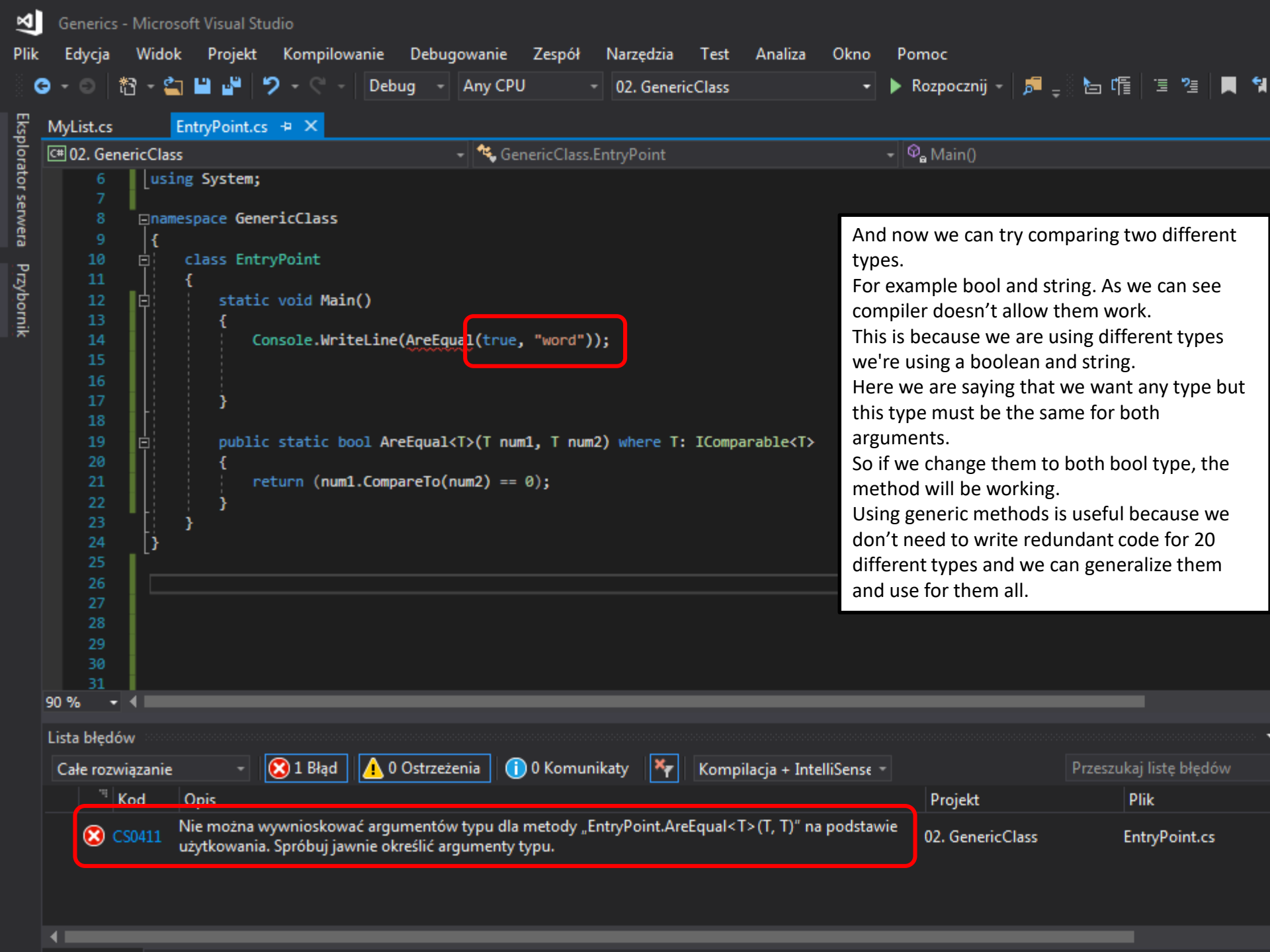
Całe rozwiązanie 1 Błąd 0 Ostrzeżenia 0 Komunikaty Kompilacja + IntelliSense Przeszukaj listę błędów

Kod	Opis	Projekt	Plik
CS0019	Nie można zastosować operatora „==” do argumentów operacji typu „T” lub „T”.	02. GenericClass	EntryPoint.cs



We can use the CompareTo method that's built into the Dot Net framework. So let's try and do this. But we now have not access to the method CompareTo from argument of generic type. The reasoning is the same. It's not clear what types exactly are we going to take in, and C-Sharp can't compare them by default. So we need to make some constraints on our generic type. So we are using the where keyword. So we're going to write where T is Comparable. So what we are saying here: this is a generic method that takes any type of T and this type of T must implement the IComparable interface. This is a constraint that we are going to use. Now we should have access to the ComparedTo method and there it is. We have it because it's coming from the IComparable interface. So any type that implements this interface is going to be able to used in this method.





And now we can try comparing two different types.
For example bool and string. As we can see compiler doesn't allow them work.
This is because we are using different types we're using a boolean and string.
Here we are saying that we want any type but this type must be the same for both arguments.
So if we change them to both bool type, the method will be working.
Using generic methods is useful because we don't need to write redundant code for 20 different types and we can generalize them and use for them all.

```
Console.WriteLine(AreEqual(true, "word"));
```

```
CS0411 Nie można wywnioskować argumentów typu dla metody „EntryPoint.AreEqual<T>(T, T)” na podstawie użytkownika. Spróbuj jawnie określić argumenty typu.
```

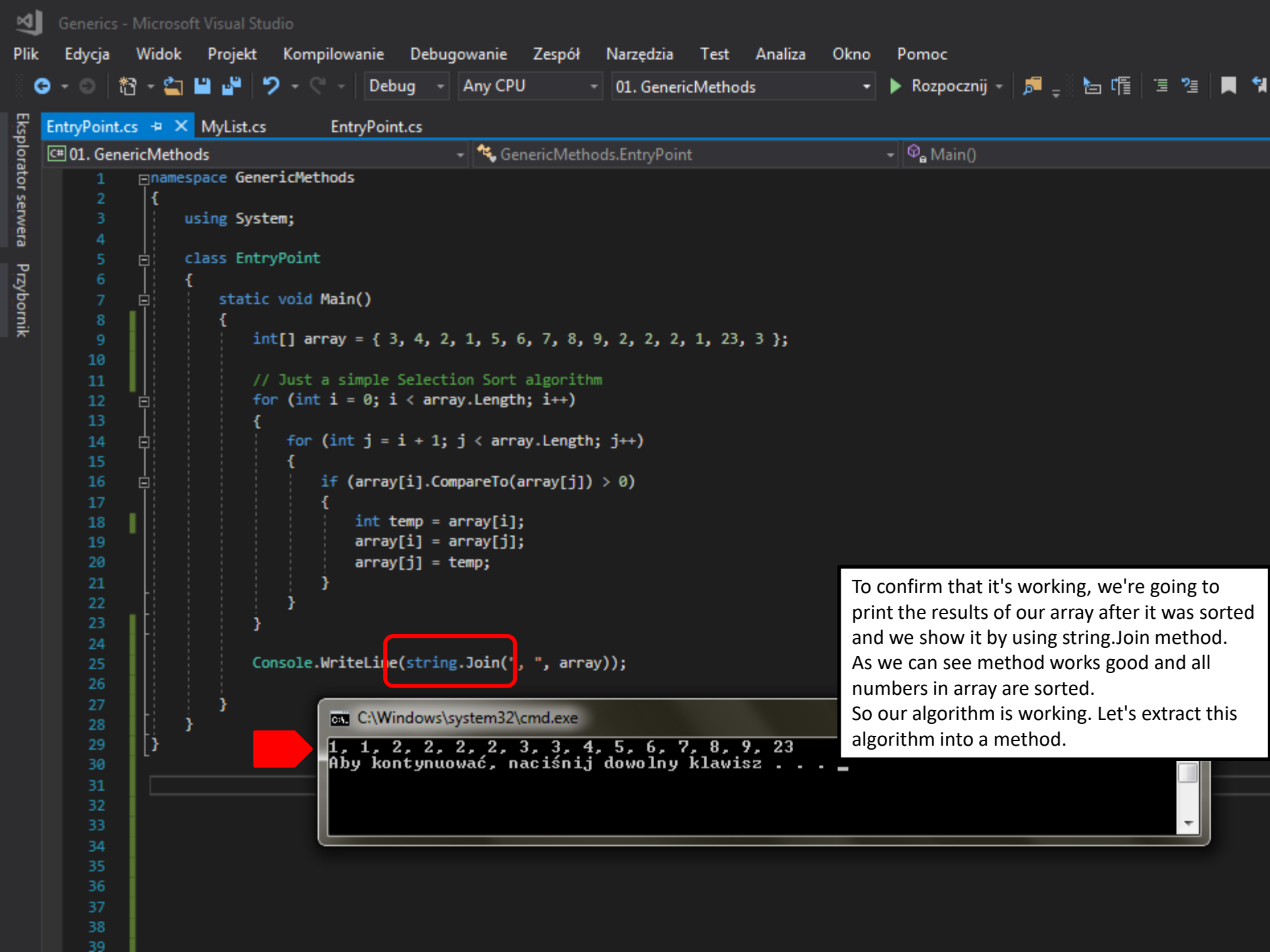

Generic methods for sorting collections

All right let's try another example here.



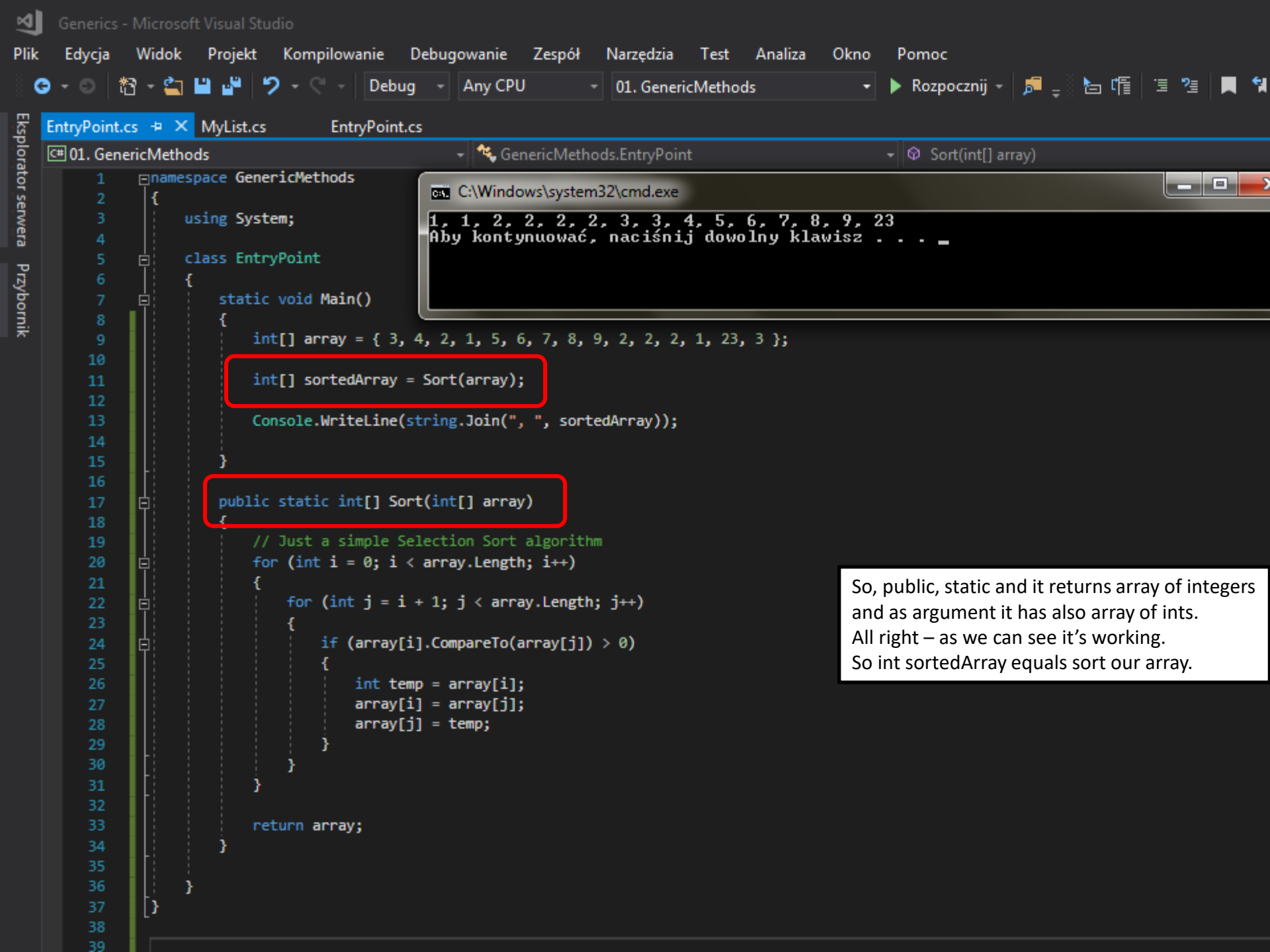
```
1 namespace GenericMethods
2 {
3     using System;
4
5     class EntryPoint
6     {
7         static void Main()
8         {
9             int[] array = { 3, 4, 2, 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 2, 2, 2, 1, 23, 3 };
10
11             // Just a simple Selection Sort algorithm
12             for (int i = 0; i < array.Length; i++)
13             {
14                 for (int j = i + 1; j < array.Length; j++)
15                 {
16                     if (array[i].CompareTo(array[j]) > 0)
17                     {
18                         int temp = array[i];
19                         array[i] = array[j];
20                         array[j] = temp;
21                     }
22                 }
23             }
24         }
25     }
26 }
```

We have an implementation of the selection sort algorithm.
It's simply sorting an array.



To confirm that it's working, we're going to print the results of our array after it was sorted and we show it by using `string.Join` method. As we can see method works good and all numbers in array are sorted. So our algorithm is working. Let's extract this algorithm into a method.

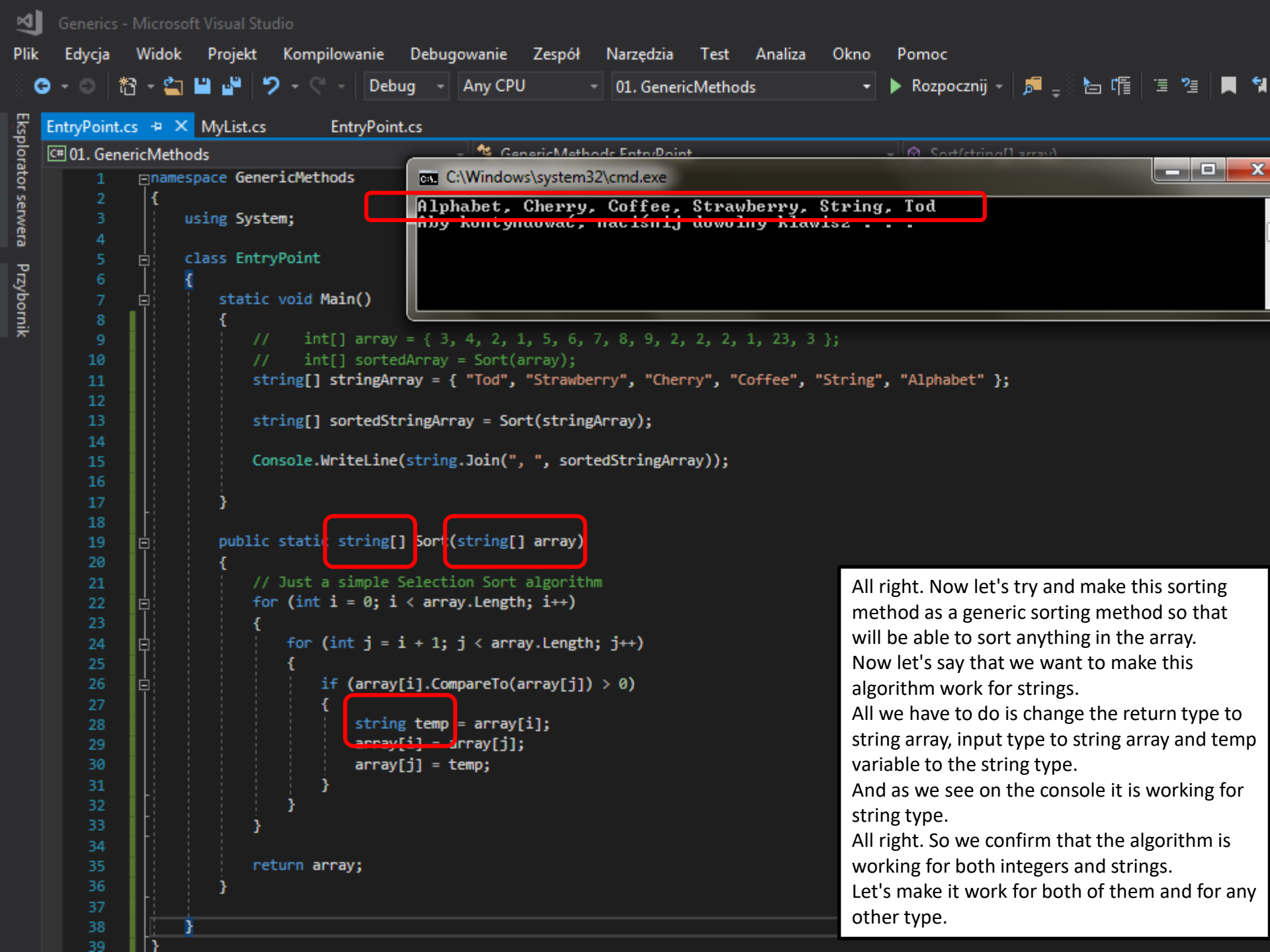
```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 23
Aby kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz . . . _
```



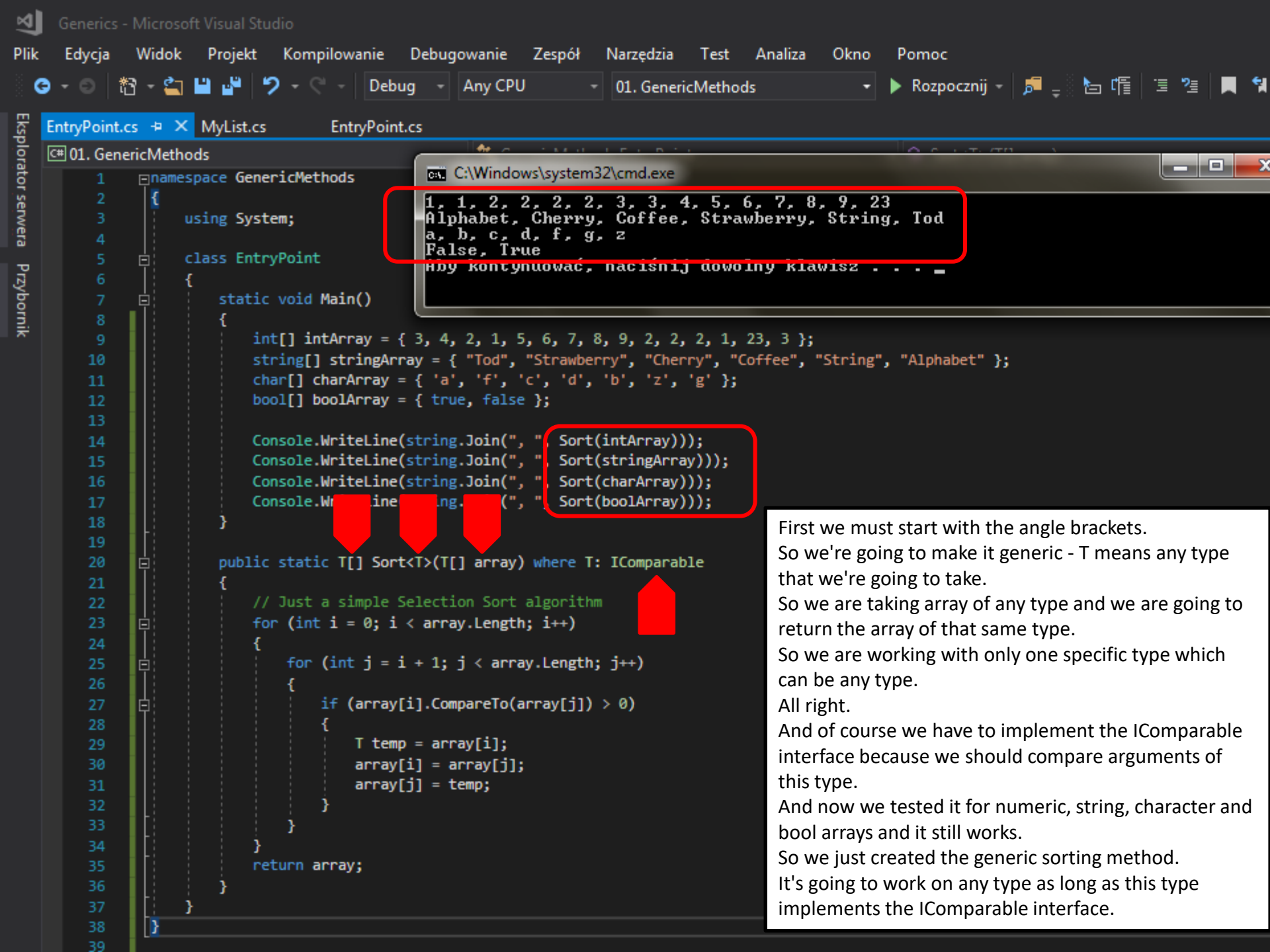
`int[] sortedArray = Sort(array);`

`public static int[] Sort(int[] array)`

So, public, static and it returns array of integers and as argument it has also array of ints. All right – as we can see it's working. So `int sortedArray` equals `sort our array`.



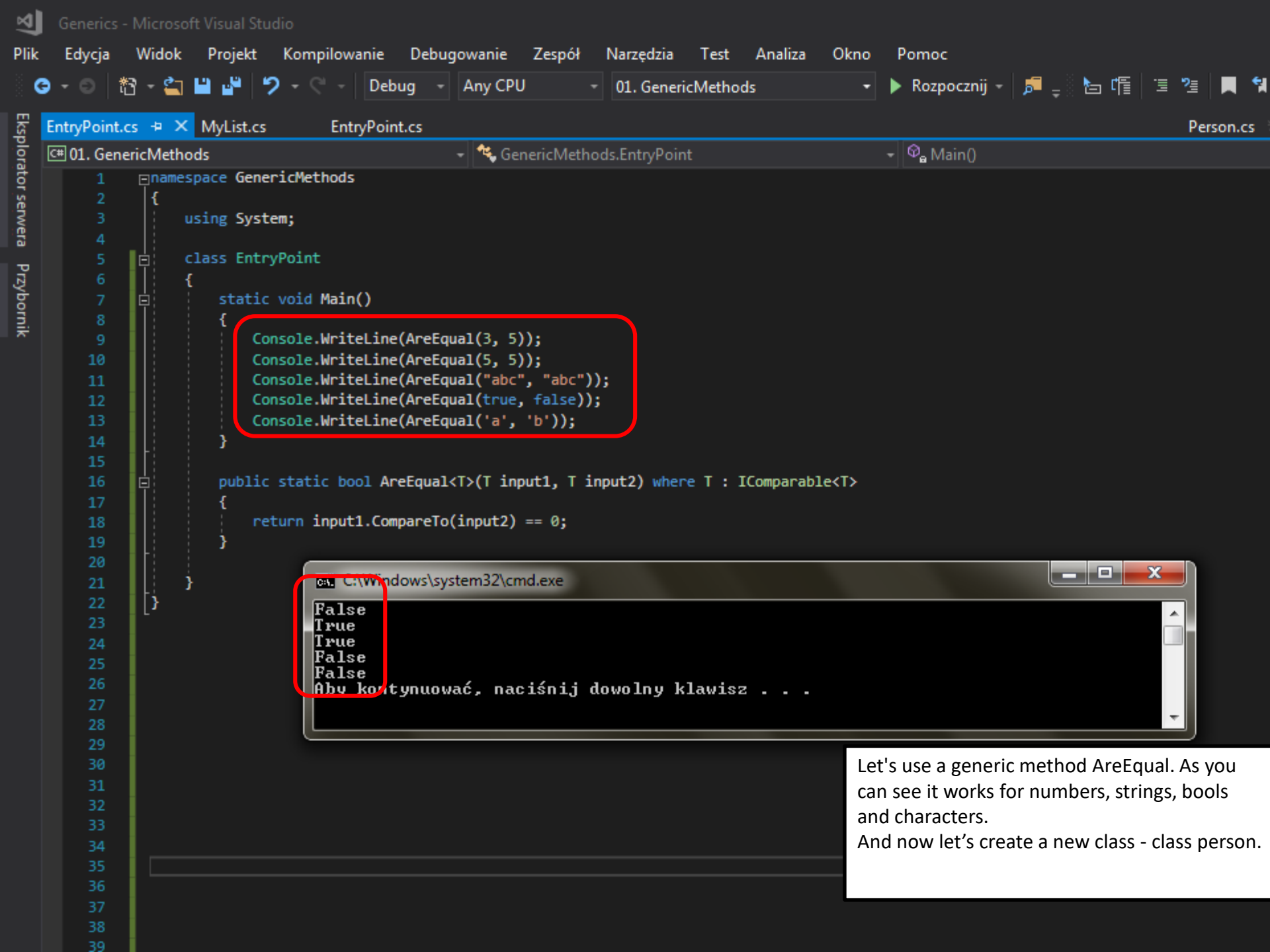
All right. Now let's try and make this sorting method as a generic sorting method so that will be able to sort anything in the array. Now let's say that we want to make this algorithm work for strings. All we have to do is change the return type to string array, input type to string array and temp variable to the string type. And as we see on the console it is working for string type. All right. So we confirm that the algorithm is working for both integers and strings. Let's make it work for both of them and for any other type.



First we must start with the angle brackets. So we're going to make it generic - T means any type that we're going to take. So we are taking array of any type and we are going to return the array of that same type. So we are working with only one specific type which can be any type. All right. And of course we have to implement the IComparable interface because we should compare arguments of this type. And now we tested it for numeric, string, character and bool arrays and it still works. So we just created the generic sorting method. It's going to work on any type as long as this type implements the IComparable interface.

Implementing the Comparable interface in a class

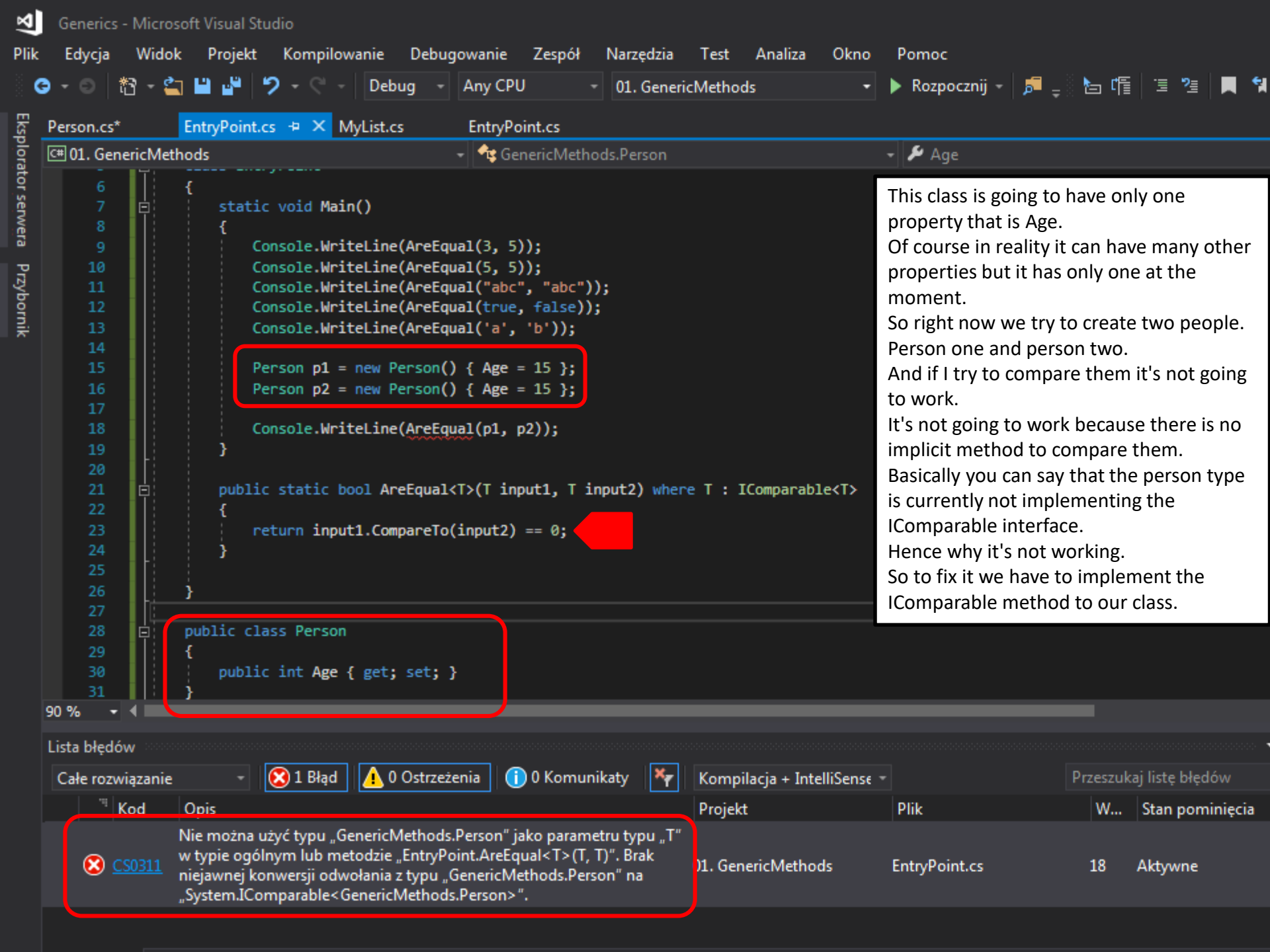
All right we have created two generic methods: AreEqual and Sort that work on any type.
But so far we have tried it with integers and with strings and some simple types.
How about if we have our own custom type or a class.



```
Console.WriteLine(AreEqual(3, 5));  
Console.WriteLine(AreEqual(5, 5));  
Console.WriteLine(AreEqual("abc", "abc"));  
Console.WriteLine(AreEqual(true, false));  
Console.WriteLine(AreEqual('a', 'b'));
```

```
False  
True  
True  
False  
False  
Aby kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz . . .
```

Let's use a generic method AreEqual. As you can see it works for numbers, strings, booleans and characters. And now let's create a new class - class person.



This class is going to have only one property that is Age. Of course in reality it can have many other properties but it has only one at the moment. So right now we try to create two people. Person one and person two. And if I try to compare them it's not going to work. It's not going to work because there is no implicit method to compare them. Basically you can say that the person type is currently not implementing the IComparable interface. Hence why it's not working. So to fix it we have to implement the IComparable method to our class.

```
Person p1 = new Person() { Age = 15 };  
Person p2 = new Person() { Age = 15 };
```

```
public class Person  
{  
    public int Age { get; set; }  
}
```

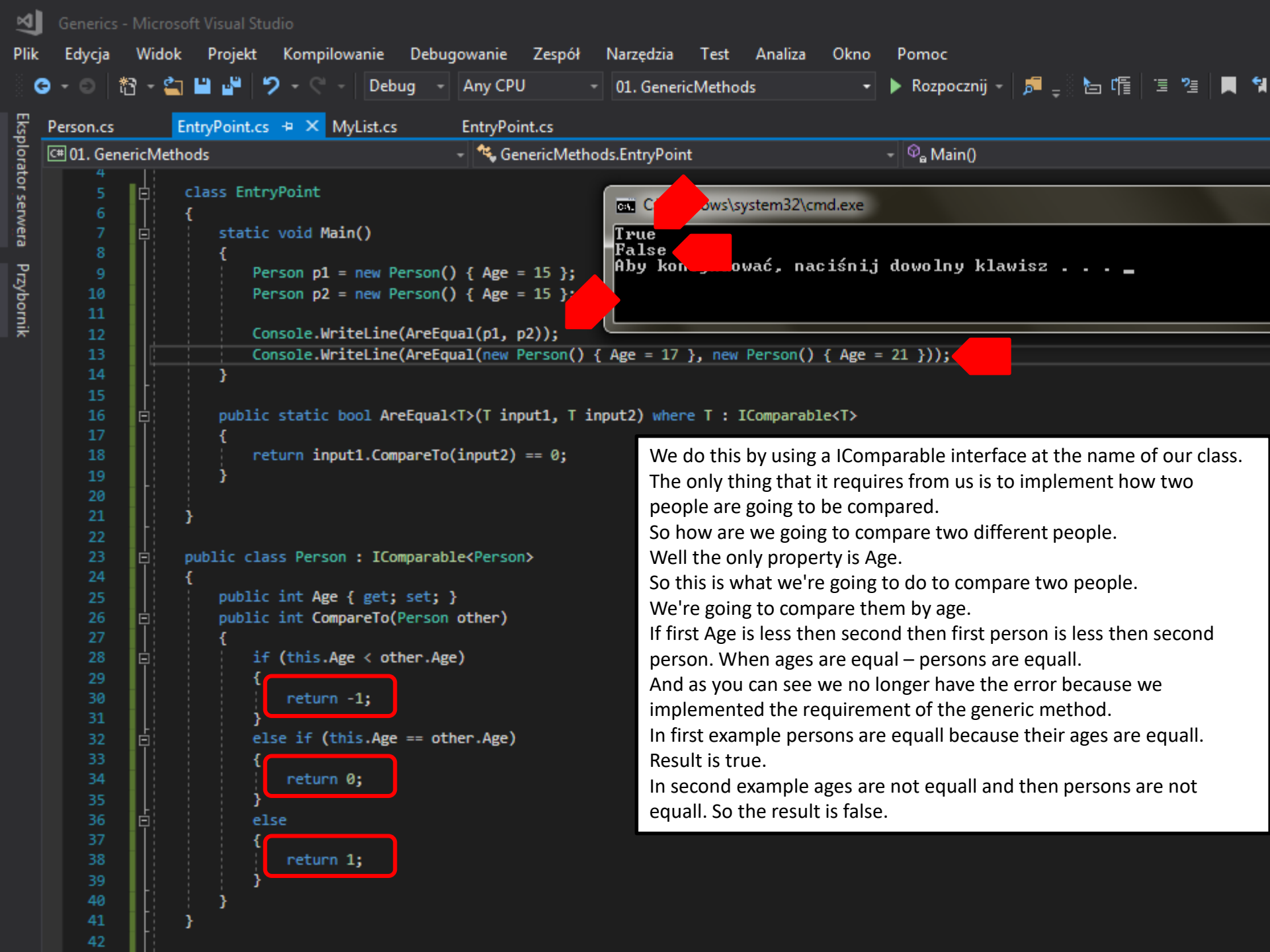


Lista błędów

Całe rozwiązanie 1 Błąd 0 Ostrzeżenia 0 Komunikaty Kompilacja + IntelliSense Przeszukaj listę błędów

CS0311 Nie można użyć typu „GenericMethods.Person” jako parametru typu „T” w typie ogólnym lub metodzie „EntryPoint.AreEqual<T>(T, T)”. Brak niejawniej konwersji odwołania z typu „GenericMethods.Person” na „System.IComparable<GenericMethods.Person>”.

Kod	Opis	Projekt	Plik	W...	Stan pominięcia
CS0311	Nie można użyć typu „GenericMethods.Person” jako parametru typu „T” w typie ogólnym lub metodzie „EntryPoint.AreEqual<T>(T, T)”. Brak niejawniej konwersji odwołania z typu „GenericMethods.Person” na „System.IComparable<GenericMethods.Person>”.	01. GenericMethods	EntryPoint.cs	18	Aktywne



We do this by using a IComparable interface at the name of our class. The only thing that it requires from us is to implement how two people are going to be compared. So how are we going to compare two different people. Well the only property is Age. So this is what we're going to do to compare two people. We're going to compare them by age. If first Age is less then second then first person is less then second person. When ages are equal – persons are equall. And as you can see we no longer have the error because we implemented the requirement of the generic method. In first example persons are equall because their ages are equall. Result is true. In second example ages are not equall and then persons are not equall. So the result is false.

Generic classes

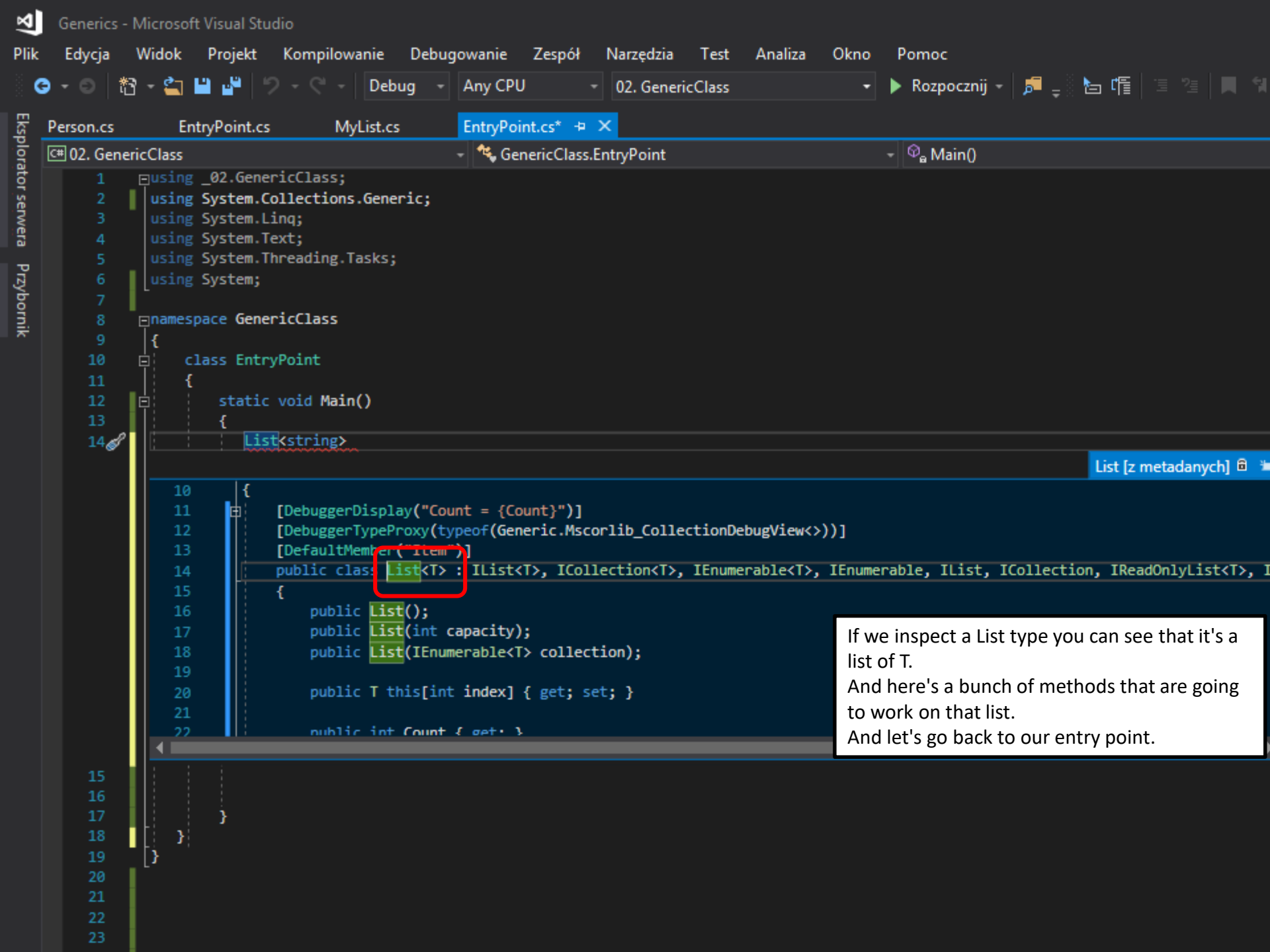
So we not only have generic methods but we also have generic classes and there is one particular generic class that we use over and over again.

This class is a List class.

Remember that after you write a list you have always angle brackets to deal with what type the list is going to have.

We can write list with integer or string or anything else that we may want the list contain.

This is the perfect example of a generic class.



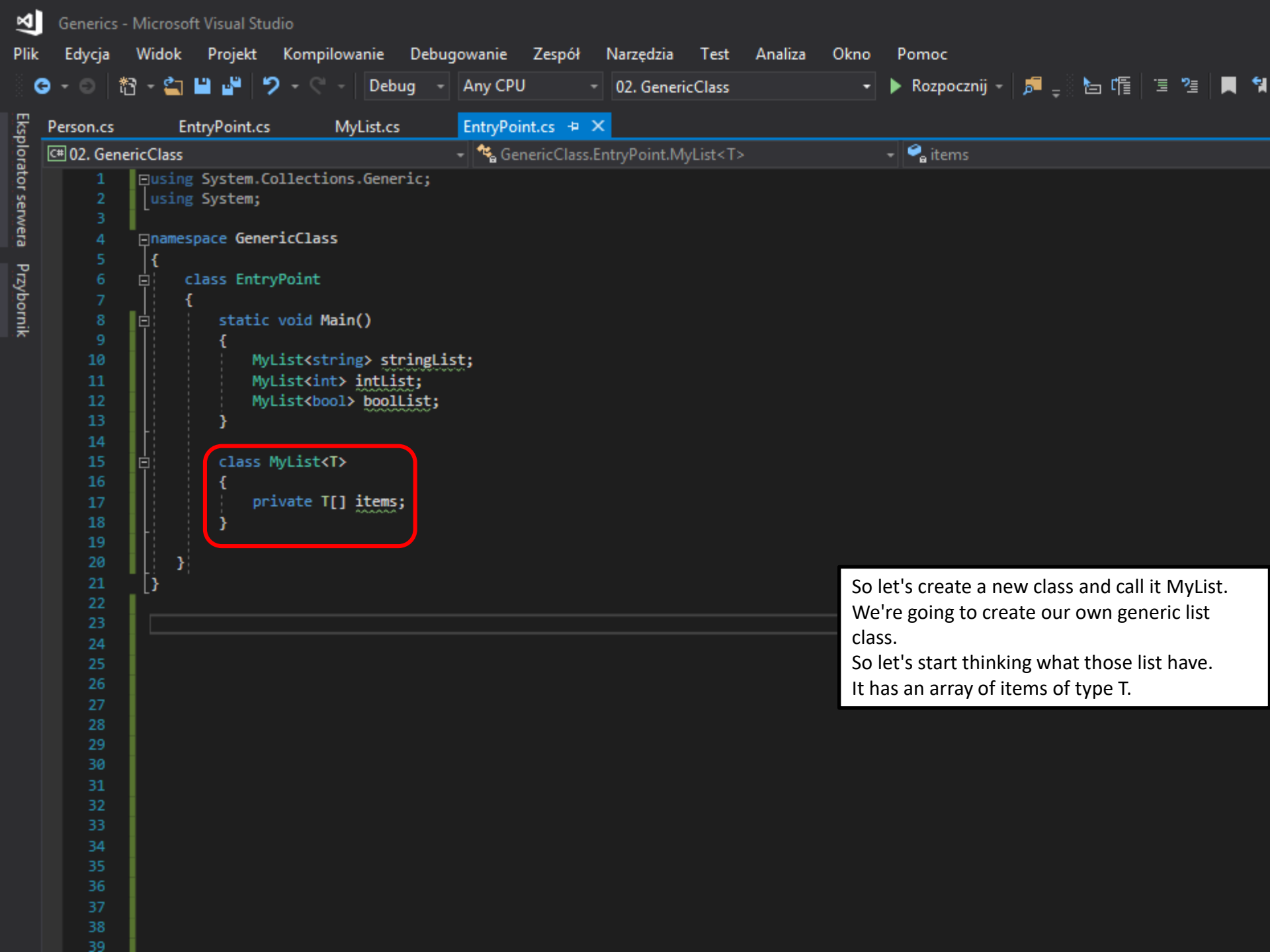
```
1 using _02.GenericClass;
2 using System.Collections.Generic;
3 using System.Linq;
4 using System.Text;
5 using System.Threading.Tasks;
6 using System;
7
8 namespace GenericClass
9 {
10     class EntryPoint
11     {
12         static void Main()
13         {
14             List<string>
```

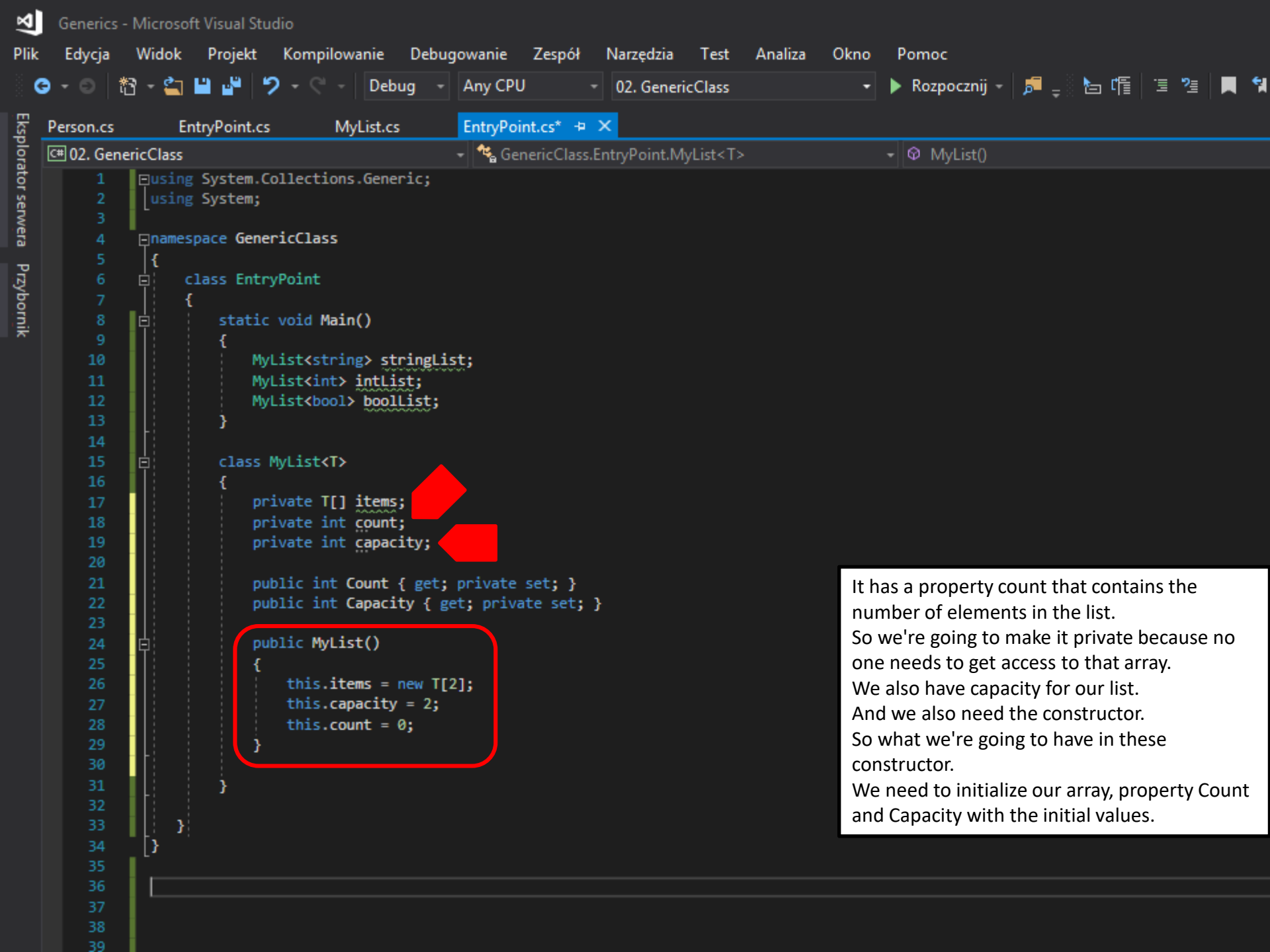
List [z metadanych]

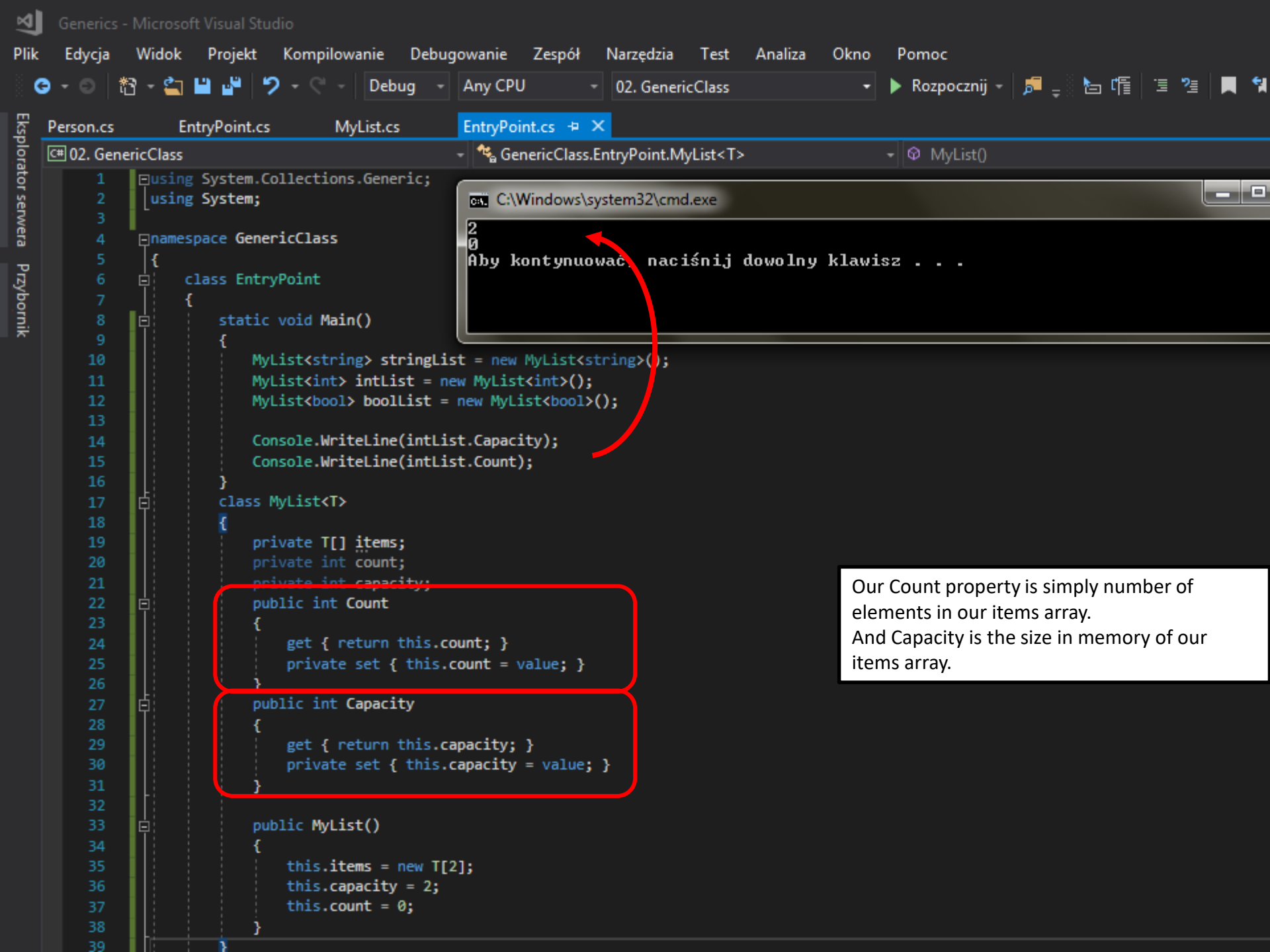
```
10 {
11     [DebuggerDisplay("Count = {Count}")]
12     [DebuggerTypeProxy(typeof(Generic.Mscorlib_CollectionDebugView<>))]
13     [DefaultMember("Item")]
14     public class List<T> : IList<T>, ICollection<T>, IEnumerable<T>, IEnumerable, IList, ICollection, IReadOnlyList<T>, I
15     {
16         public List();
17         public List(int capacity);
18         public List(IEnumerable<T> collection);
19
20         public T this[int index] { get; set; }
21
22         public int Count { get; }
```

If we inspect a List type you can see that it's a list of T.
And here's a bunch of methods that are going to work on that list.
And let's go back to our entry point.

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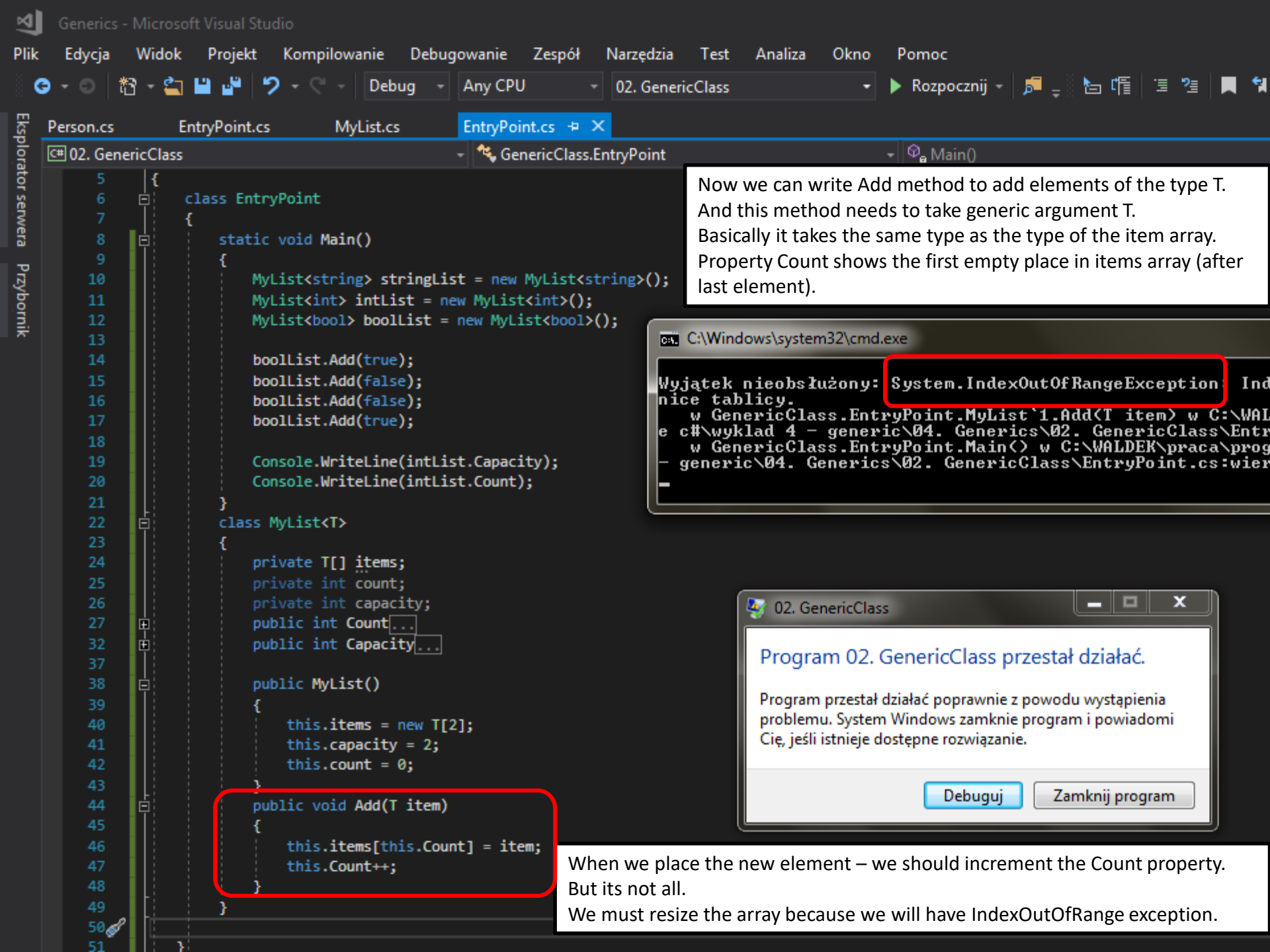


```
1 using System.Collections.Generic;
2 using System;
3
4 namespace GenericClass
5 {
6     class EntryPoint
7     {
8         static void Main()
9         {
10             MyList<string> stringlist = new MyList<string>();
11             MyList<int> intlist = new MyList<int>();
12             MyList<bool> boollist = new MyList<bool>();
13
14             Console.WriteLine(intlist.Capacity);
15             Console.WriteLine(intlist.Count);
16         }
17         class MyList<T>
18         {
19             private T[] items;
20             private int count;
21             private int capacity;
22             public int Count
23             {
24                 get { return this.count; }
25                 private set { this.count = value; }
26             }
27             public int Capacity
28             {
29                 get { return this.capacity; }
30                 private set { this.capacity = value; }
31             }
32
33             public MyList()
34             {
35                 this.items = new T[2];
36                 this.capacity = 2;
37                 this.count = 0;
38             }
39         }
40     }
41 }
```

C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

```
2
0
Aby kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz . . .
```

Our Count property is simply number of elements in our items array. And Capacity is the size in memory of our items array.



Now we can write Add method to add elements of the type T. And this method needs to take generic argument T. Basically it takes the same type as the type of the item array. Property Count shows the first empty place in items array (after last element).

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
Wyjątek nieobsłużony: System.IndexOutOfRangeException
Indnice tablicy.
w GenericClass.EntryPoint.MyList`1.Add(T item) w C:\WAL
e c#\wyklad 4 - generic\04. Generics\02. GenericClass\Entr
w GenericClass.EntryPoint.Main() w C:\WALDEK\praca\prog
- generic\04. Generics\02. GenericClass\EntryPoint.cs:wier
```

02. GenericClass

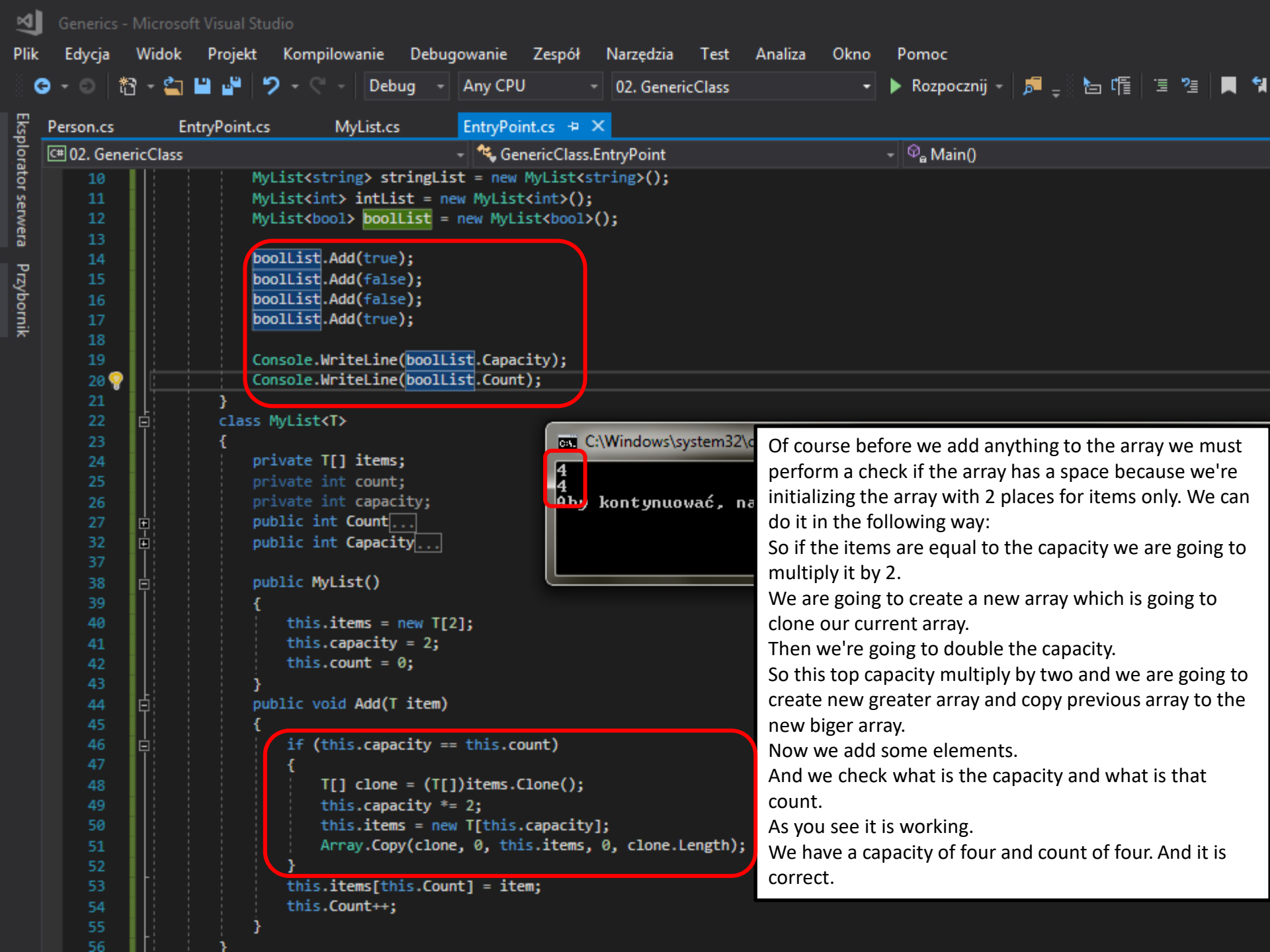
Program 02. GenericClass przestał działać.

Program przestał działać poprawnie z powodu wystąpienia problemu. System Windows zamknie program i powiadomi Cię, jeśli istnieje dostępne rozwiązanie.

Debuguj Zamknij program

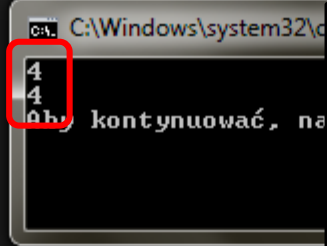
```
public void Add(T item)
{
    this.items[this.Count] = item;
    this.Count++;
}
```

When we place the new element – we should increment the Count property. But its not all. We must resize the array because we will have IndexOutOfRangeException.

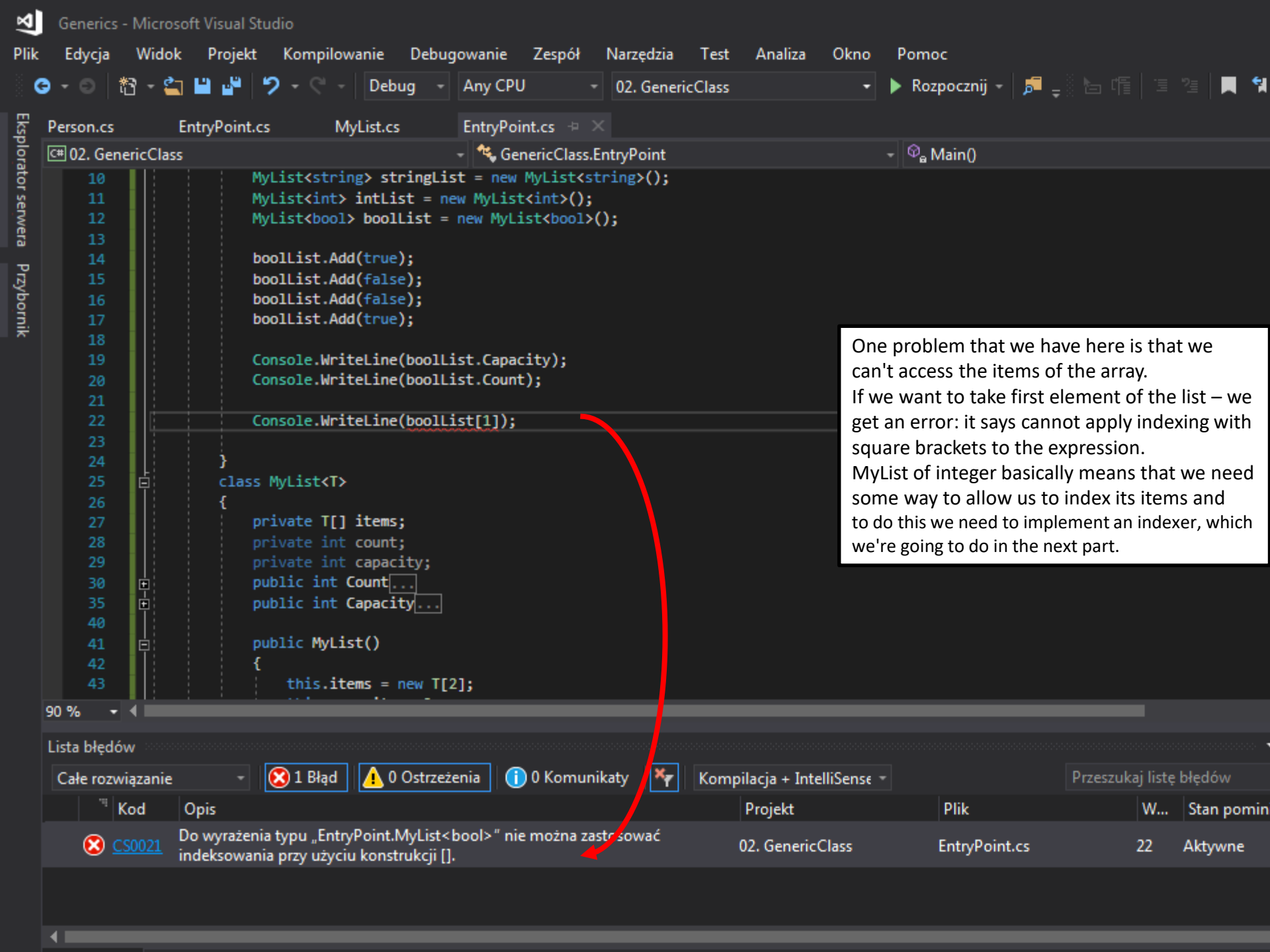


```
14 boolList.Add(true);  
15 boolList.Add(false);  
16 boolList.Add(false);  
17 boolList.Add(true);  
19 Console.WriteLine(boolList.Capacity);  
20 Console.WriteLine(boolList.Count);
```

```
22 class MyList<T>  
23 {  
24     private T[] items;  
25     private int count;  
26     private int capacity;  
27     public int Count...  
32     public int Capacity...  
37  
38     public MyList()  
39     {  
40         this.items = new T[2];  
41         this.capacity = 2;  
42         this.count = 0;  
43     }  
44     public void Add(T item)  
45     {  
46         if (this.capacity == this.count)  
47         {  
48             T[] clone = (T[])items.Clone();  
49             this.capacity *= 2;  
50             this.items = new T[this.capacity];  
51             Array.Copy(clone, 0, this.items, 0, clone.Length);  
52         }  
53         this.items[this.Count] = item;  
54         this.Count++;  
55     }  
56 }
```



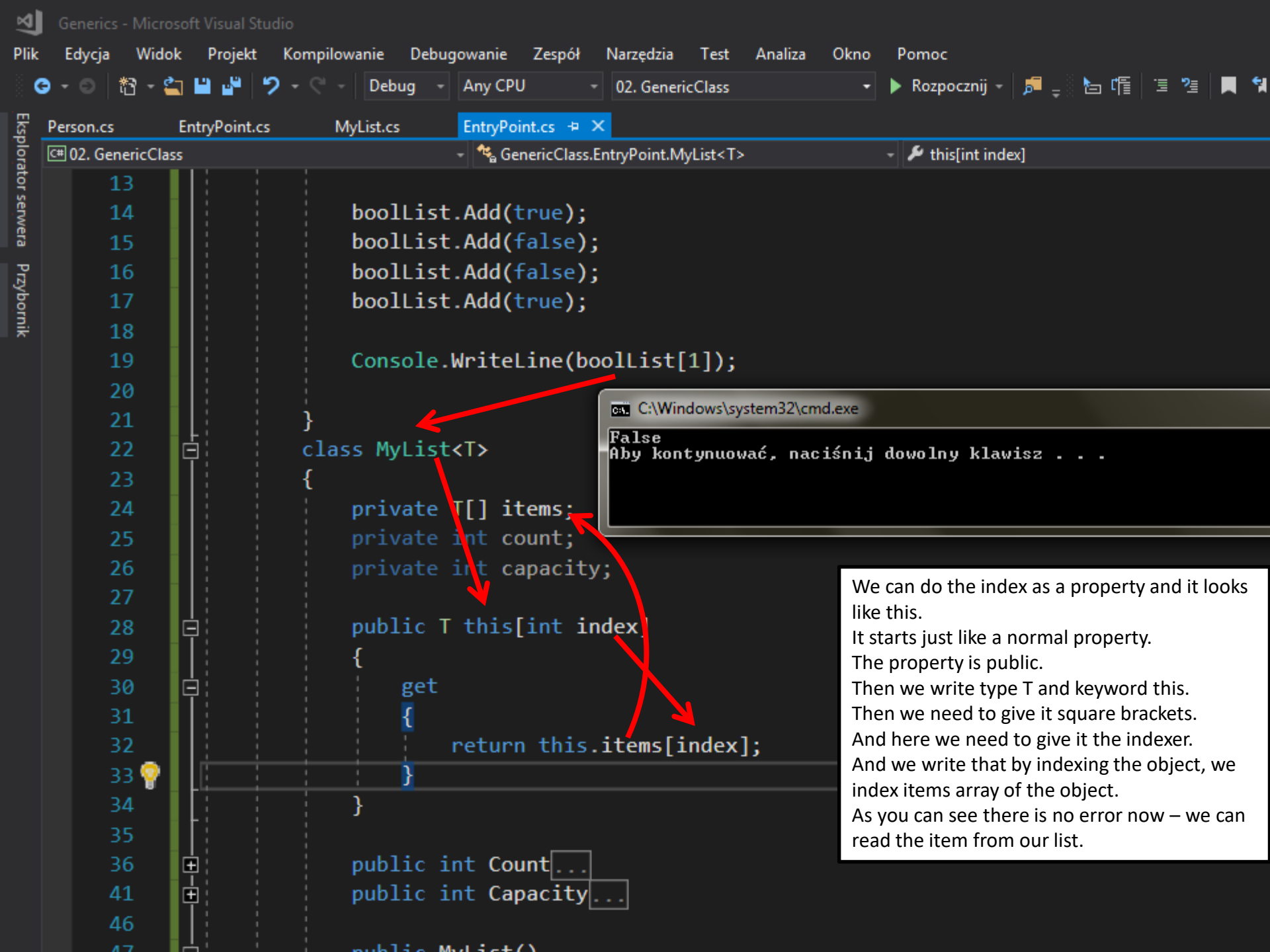
Of course before we add anything to the array we must perform a check if the array has a space because we're initializing the array with 2 places for items only. We can do it in the following way:
So if the items are equal to the capacity we are going to multiply it by 2.
We are going to create a new array which is going to clone our current array.
Then we're going to double the capacity.
So this top capacity multiply by two and we are going to create new greater array and copy previous array to the new bigger array.
Now we add some elements.
And we check what is the capacity and what is that count.
As you see it is working.
We have a capacity of four and count of four. And it is correct.



One problem that we have here is that we can't access the items of the array. If we want to take first element of the list – we get an error: it says cannot apply indexing with square brackets to the expression. MyList of integer basically means that we need some way to allow us to index its items and to do this we need to implement an indexer, which we're going to do in the next part.

Kod	Opis	Projekt	Plik	W...	Stan pomini
CS0021	Do wyrażenia typu „EntryPoint.MyList<bool>” nie można zastosować indeksowania przy użyciu konstrukcji [].	02. GenericClass	EntryPoint.cs	22	Aktywne

Generic classes - indexers

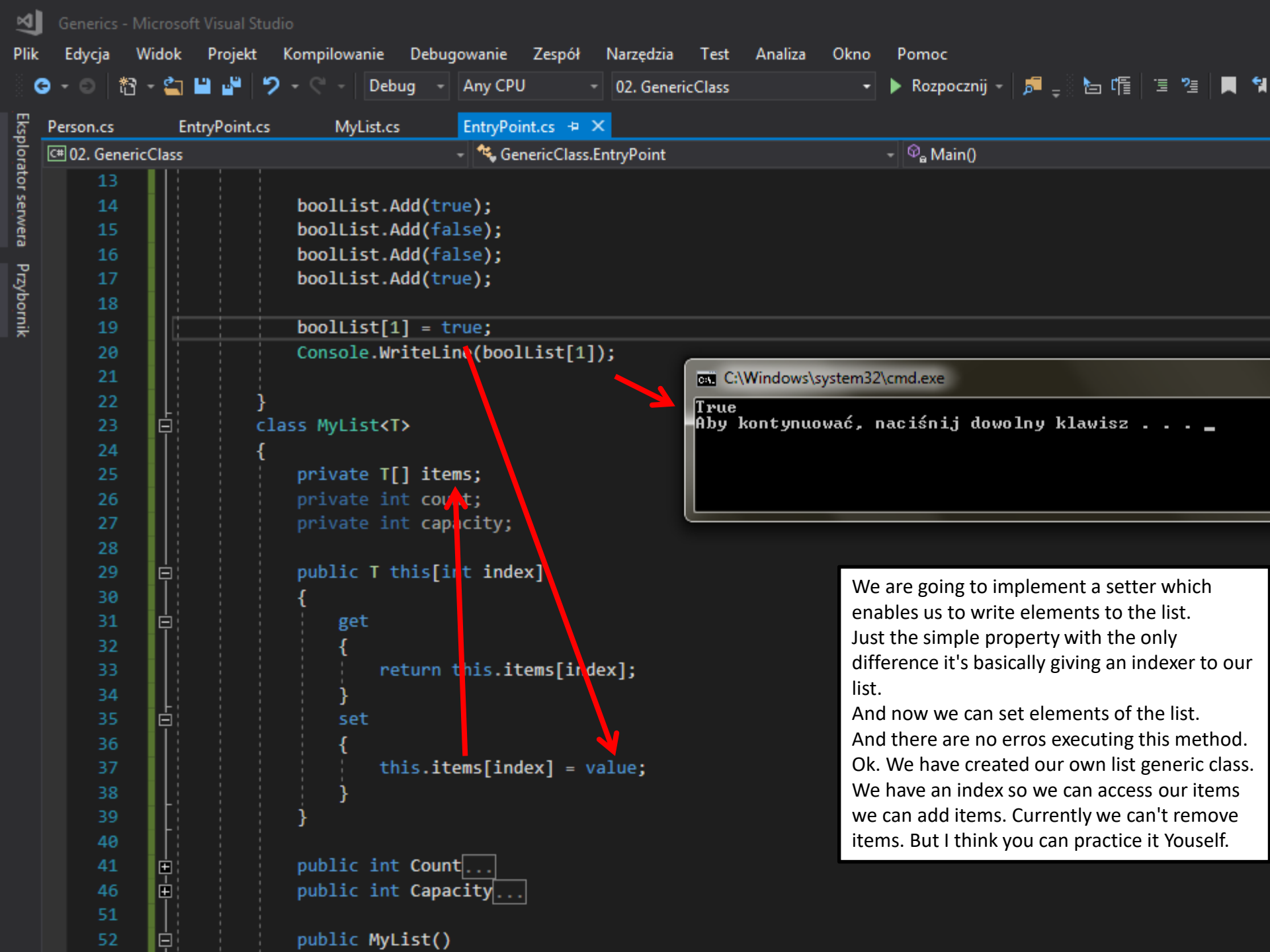


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```
boolList.Add(true);  
boolList.Add(false);  
boolList.Add(false);  
boolList.Add(true);  
  
Console.WriteLine(boolList[1]);  
}  
class MyList<T>  
{  
    private T[] items;  
    private int count;  
    private int capacity;  
  
    public T this[int index]  
    {  
        get  
        {  
            return this.items[index];  
        }  
    }  
  
    public int Count...  
    public int Capacity...  
  
    public MyList()  
}
```

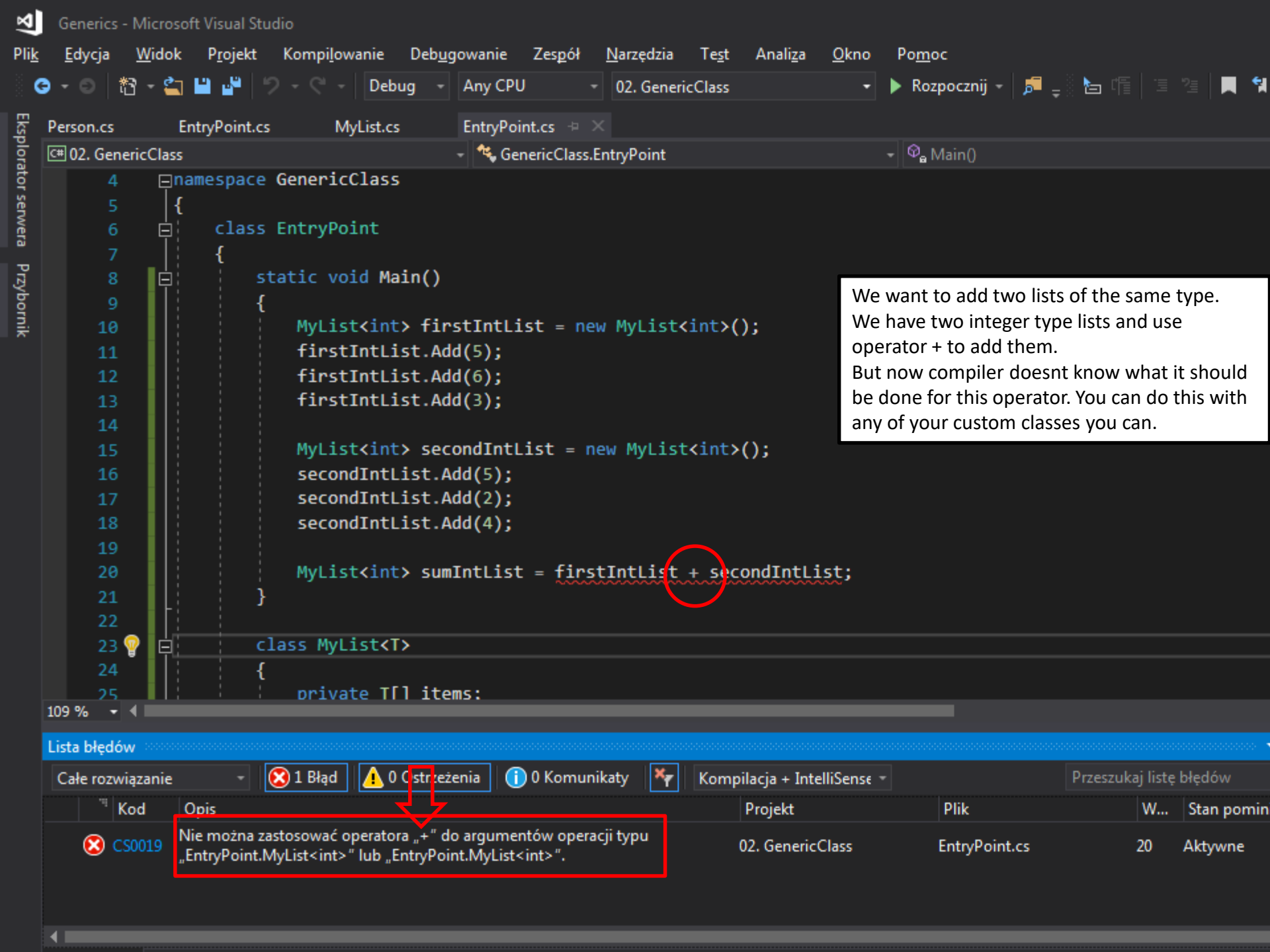
```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe  
False  
Aby kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz . . .
```

We can do the index as a property and it looks like this.
It starts just like a normal property.
The property is public.
Then we write type T and keyword this.
Then we need to give it square brackets.
And here we need to give it the indexer.
And we write that by indexing the object, we index items array of the object.
As you can see there is no error now – we can read the item from our list.



Overloading mathematical operators

Now we are going to overload mathematical operator.



We want to add two lists of the same type. We have two integer type lists and use operator + to add them. But now compiler doesnt know what it should be done for this operator. You can do this with any of your custom classes you can.

```
20 MyList<int> sumIntList = firstIntList + secondIntList;
```

Lista błędów

Całe rozwiązanie		1 Błąd	0 Ostrzeżenia	0 Komunikaty	Kompilacja + IntelliSense	Przeszukaj listę błędów	
Kod	Opis	Projekt	Plik	W...	Stan pomini		
CS0019	Nie można zastosować operatora „+” do argumentów operacji typu „EntryPoint.MyList<int>” lub „EntryPoint.MyList<int>”.	02. GenericClass	EntryPoint.cs	20	Aktywne		



```
10 MyList<int> firstIntList = new MyList<int>();  
11 firstIntList.Add(5);  
12 firstIntList.Add(6);  
13 firstIntList.Add(3);  
14  
15 MyList<int> secondIntList = new MyList<int>();  
16 secondIntList.Add(5);  
17 secondIntList.Add(2);  
18 secondIntList.Add(4);  
19  
20 MyList<int> sumIntList = firstIntList + secondIntList;  
21 }  
22  
23  
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```

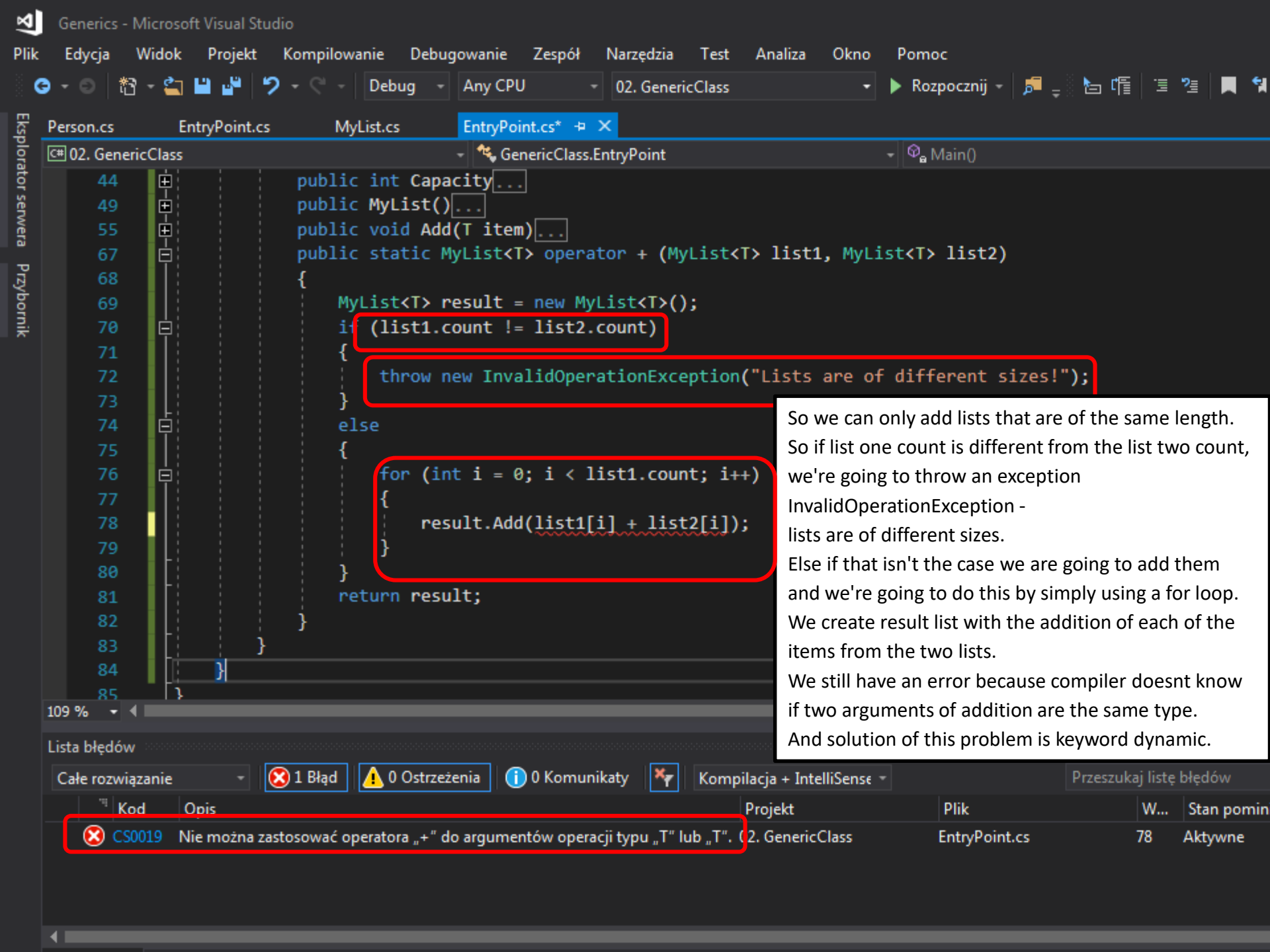
```
class MyList<T>  
{  
    private T[] items;  
    private int count;  
    private int capacity;  
    public T this[int index]...  
    public int Count...  
    public int Capacity...  
    public MyList()...  
    public void Add(T item)...  
    public static MyList<T> operator + (MyList<T> list1, MyList<T> list2)  
    {  
        MyList<T> result = new MyList<T>();  
        return result;  
    }  
}
```

We can compare our objects, but we can also do mathematical operations as adding, multiplying, dividing and subtracting for it. So let's do this with the list class.

And let's teach C-Sharp how to add two lists. We have firstIntegerList and secondIntegerList the are three elements long and third List is a sum two previous lists.

We currently can't do this because C-Sharp doesn't know how to add these two objects.

We are going to overload the mathematical operator addition. We have to do it public, static and return a type of this operation. We simply return the sum of all integers in the list.



```
02. GenericClass
GenericClass.EntryPoint
Main()

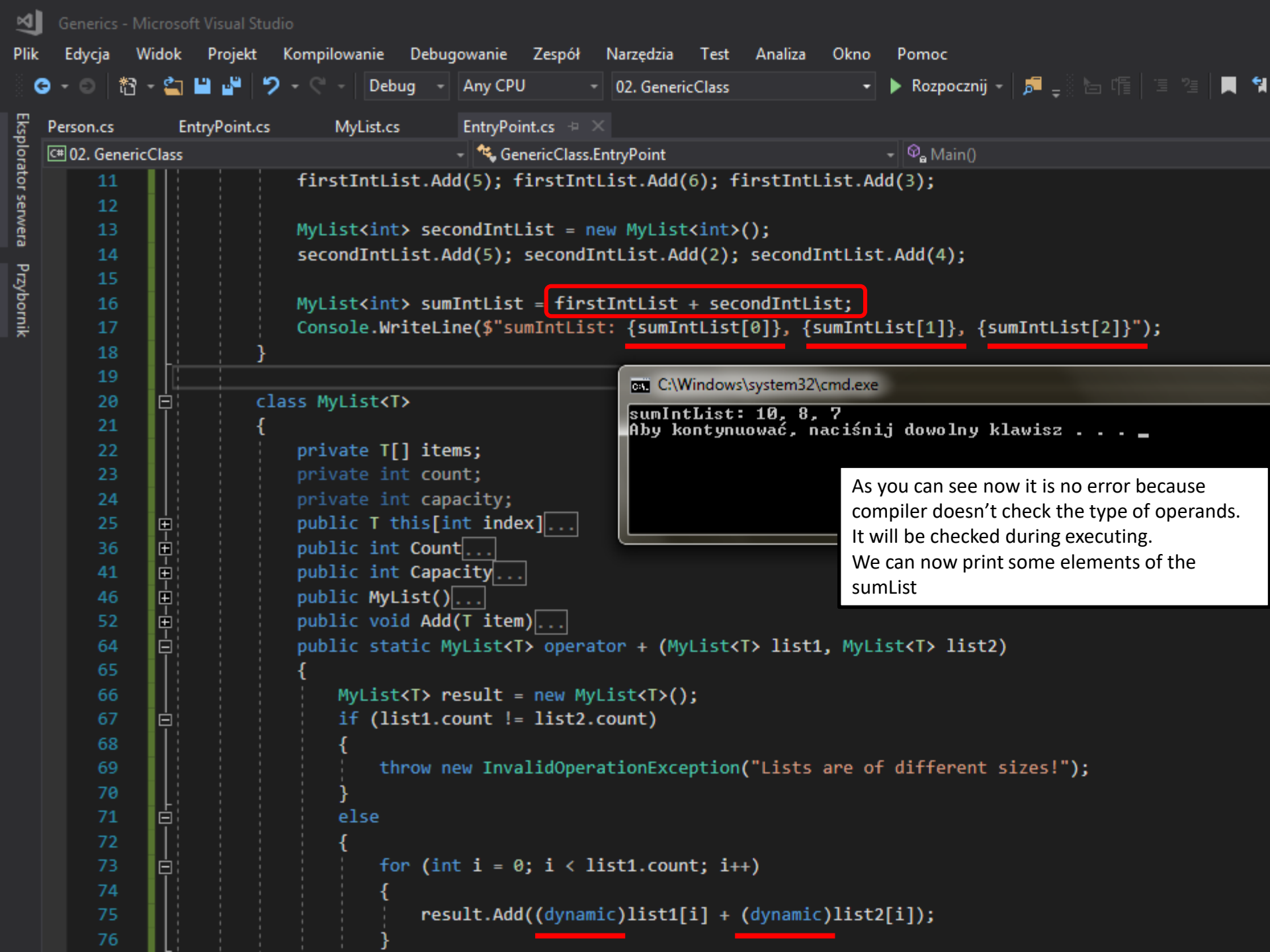
44 public int Capacity...
49 public MyList()...
55 public void Add(T item)...
67 public static MyList<T> operator + (MyList<T> list1, MyList<T> list2)
68 {
69     MyList<T> result = new MyList<T>();
70     if (list1.count != list2.count)
71     {
72         throw new InvalidOperationException("Lists are of different sizes!");
73     }
74     else
75     {
76         for (int i = 0; i < list1.count; i++)
77         {
78             result.Add(list1[i] + list2[i]);
79         }
80     }
81     return result;
82 }
83 }
84 }
85 }
```

So we can only add lists that are of the same length. So if list one count is different from the list two count, we're going to throw an exception `InvalidOperationException` - lists are of different sizes. Else if that isn't the case we are going to add them and we're going to do this by simply using a for loop. We create result list with the addition of each of the items from the two lists. We still have an error because compiler doesn't know if two arguments of addition are the same type. And solution of this problem is keyword `dynamic`.

Lista błędów

Całe rozwiązanie 1 Błąd 0 Ostrzeżenia 0 Komunikaty Kompilacja + IntelliSense

Kod	Opis	Projekt	Plik	W...	Stan pomini
CS0019	Nie można zastosować operatora „+” do argumentów operacji typu „T” lub „T”.	02. GenericClass	EntryPoint.cs	78	Aktywne

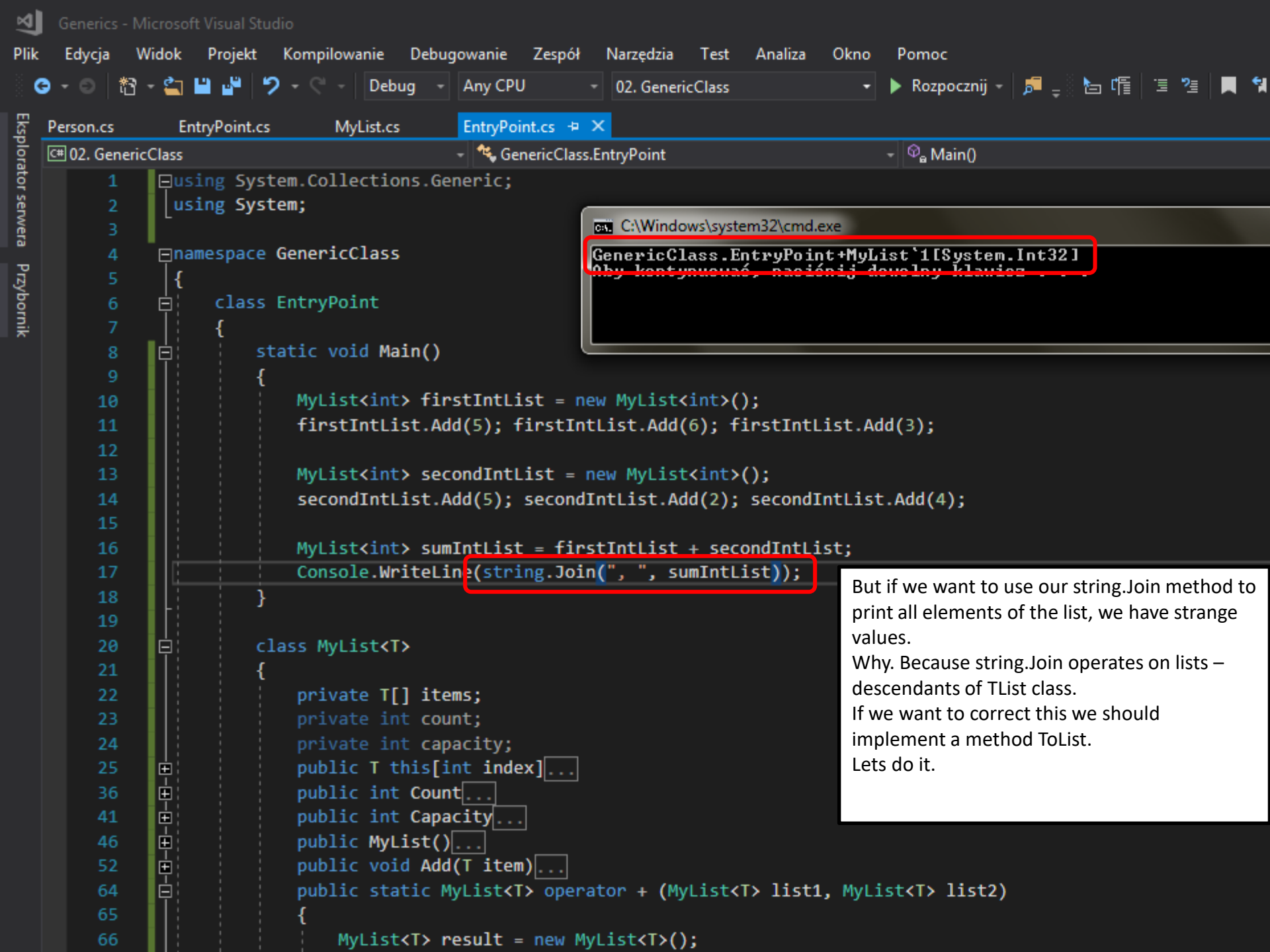


```
11 firstIntList.Add(5); firstIntList.Add(6); firstIntList.Add(3);
12
13 MyList<int> secondIntList = new MyList<int>();
14 secondIntList.Add(5); secondIntList.Add(2); secondIntList.Add(4);
15
16 MyList<int> sumIntList = firstIntList + secondIntList;
17 Console.WriteLine($"sumIntList: {sumIntList[0]}, {sumIntList[1]}, {sumIntList[2]}");
18 }
```

```
20 class MyList<T>
21 {
22     private T[] items;
23     private int count;
24     private int capacity;
25     public T this[int index]...
26     public int Count...
27     public int Capacity...
28     public MyList()...
29     public void Add(T item)...
30     public static MyList<T> operator + (MyList<T> list1, MyList<T> list2)
31     {
32         MyList<T> result = new MyList<T>();
33         if (list1.count != list2.count)
34         {
35             throw new InvalidOperationException("Lists are of different sizes!");
36         }
37         else
38         {
39             for (int i = 0; i < list1.count; i++)
40             {
41                 result.Add((dynamic)list1[i] + (dynamic)list2[i]);
42             }
43         }
44     }
45 }
```

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
sumIntList: 10, 8, 7
Aby kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz . . . _
```

As you can see now it is no error because compiler doesn't check the type of operands. It will be checked during executing. We can now print some elements of the sumList



```
1 using System.Collections.Generic;
2 using System;
3
4 namespace GenericClass
5 {
6     class EntryPoint
7     {
8         static void Main()
9         {
10             MyList<int> firstIntList = new MyList<int>();
11             firstIntList.Add(5); firstIntList.Add(6); firstIntList.Add(3);
12
13             MyList<int> secondIntList = new MyList<int>();
14             secondIntList.Add(5); secondIntList.Add(2); secondIntList.Add(4);
15
16             MyList<int> sumIntList = firstIntList + secondIntList;
17             Console.WriteLine(string.Join(", ", sumIntList));
18         }
19     }
20     class MyList<T>
21     {
22         private T[] items;
23         private int count;
24         private int capacity;
25         public T this[int index]...
26         public int Count...
27         public int Capacity...
28         public MyList()...
29         public void Add(T item)...
30         public static MyList<T> operator + (MyList<T> list1, MyList<T> list2)
31         {
32             MyList<T> result = new MyList<T>();
```

C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

GenericClass.EntryPoint+MyList`1[System.Int32]

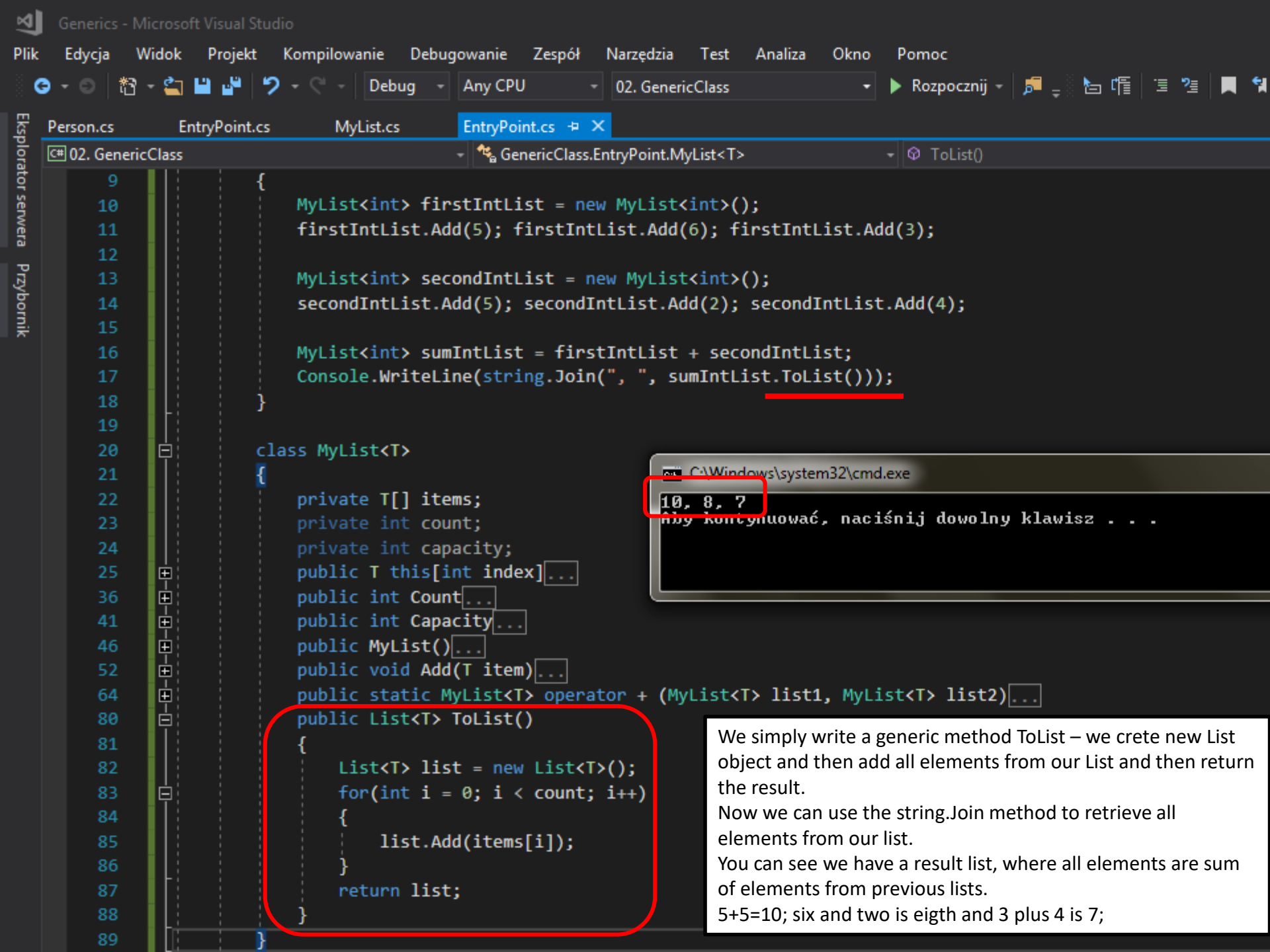
0by kontynuować, naciśnij dowolny klawisz...

But if we want to use our string.Join method to print all elements of the list, we have strange values.

Why. Because string.Join operates on lists – descendants of TList class.

If we want to correct this we should implement a method ToList.

Lets do it.

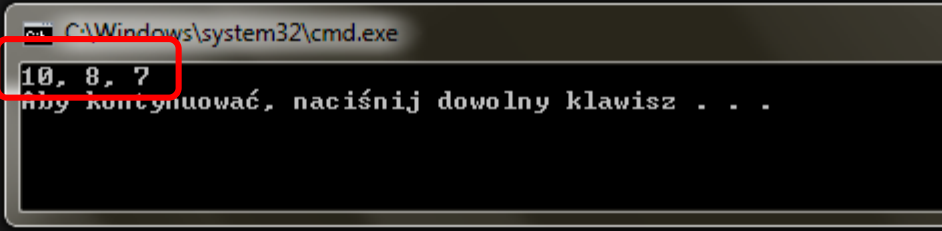


Person.cs EntryPoint.cs MyList.cs **EntryPoint.cs** X

C# 02. GenericClass GenericClass.EntryPoint.MyList<T> ToList()

```
9     {
10        MyList<int> firstIntList = new MyList<int>();
11        firstIntList.Add(5); firstIntList.Add(6); firstIntList.Add(3);
12
13        MyList<int> secondIntList = new MyList<int>();
14        secondIntList.Add(5); secondIntList.Add(2); secondIntList.Add(4);
15
16        MyList<int> sumIntList = firstIntList + secondIntList;
17        Console.WriteLine(string.Join(", ", sumIntList.ToList()));
18     }
```

```
20   class MyList<T>
21   {
22       private T[] items;
23       private int count;
24       private int capacity;
25       public T this[int index]...
26       public int Count...
27       public int Capacity...
28       public MyList()...
29       public void Add(T item)...
30       public static MyList<T> operator + (MyList<T> list1, MyList<T> list2)...
31       public List<T> ToList()
32       {
33           List<T> list = new List<T>();
34           for(int i = 0; i < count; i++)
35           {
36               list.Add(items[i]);
37           }
38           return list;
39       }
```



We simply write a generic method ToList – we create new List object and then add all elements from our List and then return the result.
Now we can use the string.Join method to retrieve all elements from our list.
You can see we have a result list, where all elements are sum of elements from previous lists.
5+5=10; six and two is eight and 3 plus 4 is 7;

