

C Introduction Lesson Outline

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hello_world.c

```
/*
*****
*** Program: hello_world ***
*** Author: Henry Neeman (hneeman@ou.edu) ***
*** Course: CS 1313 010 Fall 2007 ***
*** Lab: Sec 011 Fridays 9:30am ***
*** Description: Prints the sentence ***
*** "Hello, world!" to standard output. ***
*****
*/
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{ /* main */
    /*
    *****
    *** Execution Section (body) ***
    *****
    *
    * Print the sentence to standard output
    * (i.e., to the terminal screen).
    */
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
} /* main */
```



C Character Set

These are the characters that C recognizes.

■ Letters (upper case and lower case)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z

■ Digits

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

■ Special Characters

space (also known as *blank*)

'	"	()	*	+	-	/	:	=
!	&	\$;	<	>	%	?	,	.
^	#	@	~	`	{	}	[]	\



C is Case Sensitive

C is *case sensitive*: it distinguishes between **UPPER** case (CAPITAL) and **lower** case (small) letters.

Keywords in C — for example, the keyword `int` — **MUST** be in lower case. For example:

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main ()
{ /* main */
    int height_in_cm;

    height_in_cm = 160;
    printf("My height is %d cm.\n",
          height_in_cm);
} /* main */
```



Character String Literal Constant

A *character string literal constant* is a sequence of characters delimited by a double quote at the beginning and a double quote at the end.

A character string literal constant is also known as a *character string literal* or a *string literal* for short.

For example, in this **printf statement**:

```
printf("This is a printf.\n");
```

the following is a **string literal**:

```
"This is a printf.\n"
```

The **output** of this printf statement is:

```
This is a printf.
```

followed by a *newline*, also known as a *carriage return*.



String Literal Cannot Use Multiple Lines

A character string literal constant can only use one line; that is, both of its delimiters **MUST** be on the same line of source code text.

So, this is **correct**:

```
printf("This string literal takes one line");  
printf(" and so does this string literal.\n");
```

And this is **WRONG WRONG WRONG**:

```
printf("This string literal takes  
more than one line so it's WRONG!\n");
```

Some compilers will accept this but won't be happy; other compilers will simply reject it.

Regardless, if this appears in a program in CS1313, **YOU WILL BE SEVERELY PENALIZED!**



Multi-line String Literal Example

```
% cat bad_string_literal.c
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{ /* main */
    printf("This string literal takes
           more than one line so it's WRONG!\n");
} /* main */
% gcc -o bad_string_literal bad_string_literal.c
bad_string_literal.c:5:12: warning: multi-line
string literals are deprecated
```

Deprecated: severely frowned upon



Newline

In C, you can place a *newline*, also known as a *carriage return*, inside a string literal using:

`\n`

If a newline appears inside a string literal in the **source code**, then when the string literal is output, the newline causes the **output** to move to a new line.



Newline Example

```
% cat newline.c
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{ /* main */
    printf("Howdy do!\n");
    printf("This string literal contains a newline in the\nmiddle ");
    printf("but this string literal contains a newline at the end.\n");
    printf("So there!\n");
} /* main */
% gcc -o newline newline.c
% newline
Howdy do!
This string literal contains a newline in the
middle but this string literal contains a newline at the end.
So there!
```

Note: In general, it's better programming practice to **put newlines only at the end** of your string literals, not in the middle, because in the middle they can be difficult for programmers (e.g., graders) to see.



Statements

A *statement* in a program is like a sentence in a natural language: it's the smallest possible collection of words and punctuation that can stand by itself and have meaning.

For example:

```
printf("Hello, world.\n");
```

This statement tells the compiler to output to the terminal screen the string literal

```
Hello, world.
```

followed by a newline.



Statement Terminator

In C, every statement ends with a semicolon, which is known as the statement terminator.

For example:

```
int height_in_cm;  
  
height_in_cm = 160;  
printf("My height is %d cm.\n",  
       height_in_cm);
```

Notice that a statement CAN take more than one line (but recall that a string literal CAN'T take more than one line).

The way you find the end of a statement is by finding its statement terminator.



Standard Input & Standard Output

- *Standard input* is when a user types at the keyboard. It is sometimes shortened to `stdin`, pronounced “standard in.”
- *Standard output* is when the computer outputs to the terminal screen. It is sometimes shortened to `stdout`, pronounced “standard out.”

In C:

- a `scanf` statement always inputs from `stdin`, and
- a `printf` statement always outputs to `stdout`.

More on this later.



Block Delimiters

The open curly brace, also known as the left brace,
{
acts as the start of a **block** and is known as the
block open.

The close curly brace, also known as the right brace,
}
acts as the end of a **block** and is known as the
block close.

The block open and block close are said to **delimit** the block: they indicate where the block begins and where the block ends.

Delimit: Indicate where something begins and ends.



What Is a Comment? #1

A *comment* is a piece of text in a source file that:

- tells human beings (e.g., programmers) something useful about the program, but
- is ignored by the compiler, so it has absolutely no affect on how the program runs.

In C, the start of a comment is indicated by

`/*`

and the end of a comment is indicated by

`*/`

All text appearing between these *comment delimiters* are part of the comment, and therefore are ignored by the compiler.



What Is a Comment? #2

A comment is a piece of text in a source file that:

- tells human beings (e.g., programmers) something useful about the program, but
- is ignored by the compiler, so it has absolutely no affect on how the program runs.

In C, the start of a comment is indicated by

/*

and the end of a comment is indicated by

*/

A comment can use multiple lines of text. The delimiters do not have to be on the same line.



Are Comments Necessary?

Comments are ignored by the compiler, so strictly speaking they aren't needed to compile and run.

But, if you don't put them into one of your CS1313 programming projects, **YOU MAY LOSE A FULL LETTER GRADE OR MORE** on that project.

Why?

Comments tell human beings useful things about your program.

They help **programmers** – including you, a month later when you've forgotten everything about your program – to understand your program.

They also tell **graders** that you know what the heck you're doing.



hello_world.c with Comments

```
/*
*****
*** Program: hello_world ***
*** Author: Henry Neeman (hneeman@ou.edu) ***
*** Course: CS 1313 010 Fall 2007 ***
*** Lab: Sec 011 Fridays 9:30am ***
*** Description: Prints the sentence ***
*** "Hello, world!" to standard output. ***
*****
*/
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{ /* main */
    /*
    *****
    *** Execution Section (body) ***
    *****
    *
    * Print the sentence to standard output
    * (i.e., to the terminal screen).
    */
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
} /* main */
```



hello_world.c without Comments

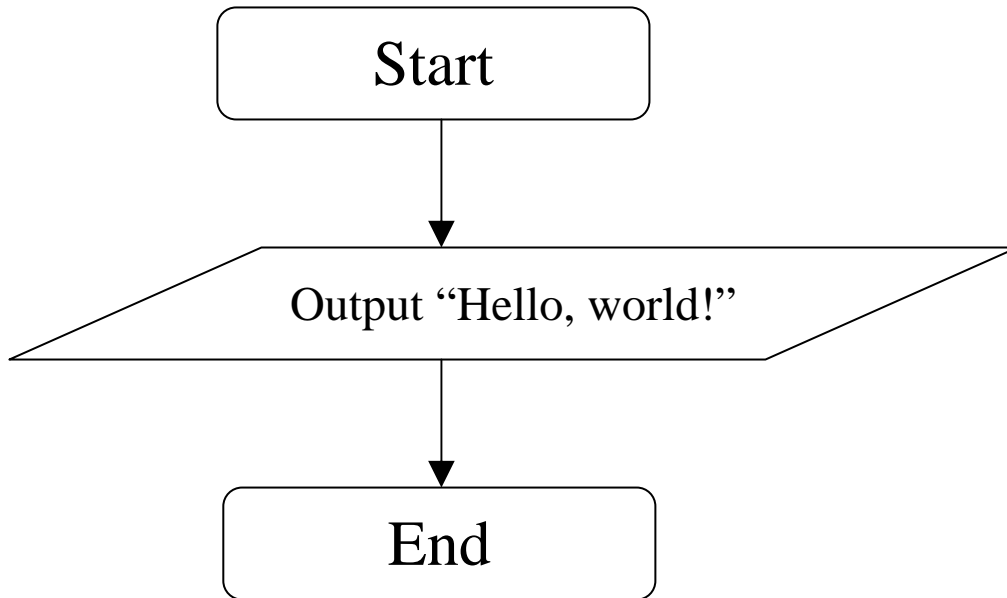
```
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
}
```



Flowchart for `hello_world.c`

```
int main ()
{
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
}
```



References:

<http://www.wiley.co.uk/college/busin/icmis/oakman/outline/chap05/slides/symbols.htm>

An **oval** denotes either the start or the end of the program, or a halt operation within the program (which we'll learn about later).

A **parallelogram** denotes either an input operation or an output operation.

An **arrow** denotes the flow of the program.

