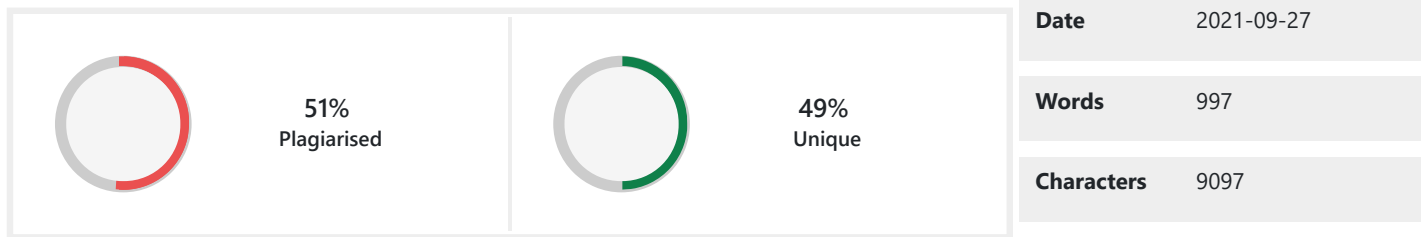




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To work on a programming language, it is important to know the input and output operations of that language! 👍
 Lets study some Input & Output Operations in C
 Before this, lets talk a little about Constants and Variables in C

Constants

Constants refer to fixed values that the program may not alter during its execution. These fixed values are also called literals. **There are two simple ways in C to define constants -**

Using #define preprocessor.

Syntax:

```
#define identifier value
```

Example:

```
#define year 2021
```

Using const keyword.

Syntax:

```
const type variable = value;
```

Example:

```
const int year = 2021;
```

Variables

Variables are memory locations(storage area) in the C programming language.

The primary purpose of variables is to store data in memory for later use.

If you declare a variable in C, that means you are asking to the operating system for reserve a piece of memory with that variable name.

Lemme tell you an important fact: Unlike constants which do not change during the program execution, variables value may change during execution! 📄

There are some rules to write a variable:

A variable name can consist of Capital letters A-Z, lowercase letters a-z, digits 0-9, and the underscore character(_).

The first character must be a letter or underscore(_). No blank spaces can be used in variable names.

Special characters like #, \$ are not allowed.

NOTE: C keywords cannot be used as variable names and variable names are case sensitive.

Syntax:

```
type variable_name;
```

Example:

```
int year;
```

Managing Input/Output

I/O operations are useful for a program to interact with users.

stdlib is the standard C library for input-output operations. In C, two important streams play their role:

Standard Input(stdin)

Standard Output(stdout)

Standard input or stdin is used for taking input from devices such as Keyboard as a data stream.

Standard output or stdout is used for giving output to a device such as Monitor.

NOTE: For using I/O functionality, programmers must include stdio header-file within the program

Formatted Input/Output

Formatted Output

In C, printf() is one of the main output function. **The function sends formatted output to the screen.**

Syntax:

```
printf("control string", arg1, arg2, arg3,.....argn);
```

Formatted Input

In C, scanf() is one of the main input function. **We have already encountered this and familiar with this function.**

Syntax:

```
scanf("control string", arg1, arg2, arg3,.....argn);
```

NOTE: scanf() can take multiple input at one time! 📖

How does a program work?

All valid C program must contain the main() function. The code execution begins from the start of the main() function.

The printf() is a library function to send formatted output to the screen.

The function prints the string inside quotations.

To use printf() & scanf() in our program, we need to include stdio.h header file using the #include statement.

The return 0; statement inside the main() function is the "Exit status" of the program. It's optional.

Sample program of Formatted Input/Output:

```
#include
int main()
{
    int number;
    scanf("%d", &number);
    printf("Number is %d", number);
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

Number is 2021

NOTE: We have used %d format specifier to print integers. Here %d within the quotations will be replaced with the value of number.

Since, we have used format specifier. Let's talk about format specifiers in C

C Format Specifier

Format specifiers can be defined as the operators which are used in association with printf() function for printing the data that is referred by any object or any variable.

Format specifiers start with a percentage % operator and followed by a special character for identifying the type of data.

NOTE: When a value is stored in a particular variable, then you cannot print the value stored in the variable straightforwardly without using the format specifiers.

You can retrieve the data that are stored in the variables and can print them onto the console screen by implementing these format specifiers in a printf() function.

Mostly used format specifiers in C:

%d Integer Format specifier
 %c Character Format specifier
 %f Float Format specifier
 Escape Sequences In C

In C programming language, there are 256 numbers of characters in character set.

The entire character set is divided into 2 parts i.e. The ASCII characters set and The extended ASCII characters set.

But apart from that, some other characters are also there which are not the part of any characters set, known as ESCAPE characters.

For example:

\a - Alarm or Beep
 \b - Backspace
 \n - New Line
 \t - Horizontal Tab
 \v - Vertical Tab

Sample Program for Escape Sequences in C:

```
#include
int main()
{
    char ch1 = '\t';
    char ch2 = '\n';
    printf("Test for tabpace %c and a newline %c will start here", ch1, ch2);
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

Test for tabspace and a newline
 will start here

As we all know the three essential functions of a computer are reading, processing and writing data.

Majority of the programs take data as input, and then after processing the processed data is being displayed which is called information.

In C programming you can use scanf() and printf() predefined function to read and print data.

Reading Character In C

The easiest and simplest of all I/O operations are taking a character as input by reading that character from standard input (keyboard).

getchar() function can be used to read a single character. This function is alternate to scanf() function.

Syntax:

```
var_name = getchar();
```

There are another functions to do that task : getc(), getch() and getche() which is used to accept a character from standard input and input streams.

So, now lets know the difference between these input funtions! 📝

Difference between getchar(), getc(), getch() and getche()

All of these functions read a character from input and return an integer value.

The integer is returned to accommodate a special value used to indicate failure.

getchar(): This function is used to read a single character.

Syntax:

```
var_name = getchar();
```

A code example:

```
#include
int main()
{
```

NOTE: Always use FILE*(file pointer of file you want to read and write in) for getc() and putc() functions! 📄

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The integer is returned to accommodate a special value used to indicate failure. The value EOF is generally used for this purpose. `getc()`: It reads a single character from a given input stream and returns the corresponding integer value (typically ASCII value of read character) on success.

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