

Q) What is "C" language?

20/11/25

C language is a high-level programming language used to develop software like operating systems, compilers, databases, and embedded systems.

* Simple definition:-

"C" is a general-purpose, structured programming language that allows you to write programs that directly interact with computer hardware. It emphasizes efficiency and low-level control.

* Key Points:-

- Developed by: Dennis Ritchie in 1972.
- Type: High level, but close to machine language.
- Fast & Efficient: used in system programming.
- Portable: Same C program can run on different computers.
- Foundation language: many languages like C++, Java, Python borrow concepts from C.

* Where C is used!:-

- Operating Systems (like early versions of Unix, parts of Linux)
- Embedded systems (microcontrollers)
- Game development
- Compilers and interpreters
- Device drivers

→ Example Program:-

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main () {
    printf ("Hello, world!");
    return 0;
}
```

* Applications of 'C' Programming.

- Here are the main application of c programming

Explained Simply:-

* Operating Systems:-

"C" is used to build system Software like OS.

- UNIX, Linux, Kernel, Windows, Ports over LVM

* Embedded Systems:-

C is widely used in microcontrollers and hardware

programming.

- washing machines

- Cars (ECUs)

- medical devices

- Smart home devices

* Game development!-

"C" is used to build game engines and graphics libraries

- Example: Early game engines were written in C.

* Compilers & Interpreters:-

many language compilers are built using C.

- C++, Java, Python interpreters use C/C++ internally.

* Database Systems!-

Popular databases use C for speed

- MySQL

PostgreSQL

* Device Drivers!-

C is used to write drivers for:

- Printers
- keyboards
- Graphics

* Networking!-

Used in

- Socket Programming
- Network tools (like Wireshark, Ports)

* System Applications:-

c is the back bone of many system tools

- Text Editors
- File Systems
- Antivirus Software.

* Scientific & Engineering Applications.

c is viewed where speed matters

- Simulations
- Modeling
- High Performance computing

* What is Variable?

A variable is a name given to a memory location in a program where we store data.

Simple definition:-

A variable is something that holds a value which can change during the execution of a program.

Example:-

```
int age = 20;
```

Hence:-

- int → data type
- age → Variable Name
- 20 → Value stored in the variable

Important Points:-

- A variable stores data in memory
- Its value can be changed
- It must be declared before use
- Data type decides what kind of value it stores (int, float, char etc.).

* What are the different data types in C Programming.

Here are the different data types in C Programming

* Primary (Basic) Data Types.

These are the fundamental built-in types.

Data type	Description	Example
"int"	Stores integer number	10, -5, 45, 0
"float"	Stores decimal numbers	3.14, 2.3, 5.6
"double"	Stores large decimal numbers	12.3456789
"char"	Stores a single character, quote of - 'A', 'S'	'A', 'S'

* Derived Data types.

These are created from basic types.

- Array
- Pointer
- Structure (struct)
- Union
- Function

* User-defined Data type:

Created by a programmer

- Struct
- Union
- Enum (Enumeration)
- typedef

* Void data type:-

Used when a function returns nothing or when a pointer contains a pointer that can point to any type.

Example:-

```
void show();
```

★ Simple Exam - Ready Answer:-

'C' has ~~5~~ categories of data types

* Basic \rightarrow int, float, double, char

* Derived \rightarrow array, pointer, Structure, Union,

* User-defined \rightarrow struct, union, enum, typedef

* Void \rightarrow No value / No return.

Q) What is Format Specifier!

A Format specifier is a symbol used in C programming to tell the compiler what type of data you want to print or using printf() or scanf().

* Simple definition:

A format specifier the type of data (int, float, char, etc.) that will be displayed or taken as input.

* common Format Specifiers in c.

Data type	Format specifier	Example
int	%d	printf("%d", age);
float	%f	printf("%f", price);
double	%lf	printf("%lf", amount);
char	%c	printf("%c", letter);
String	%s	printf("%s", name);
unsigned int	%u	printf("%u", num);
long int	%ld	printf("%ld", big);
long long int	%lld	printf("%lld", very big);
Hexa decimal	%x / %X	printf("%x", value);
octal	%o	printf("%o", value);

Example Program:-

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main () {
    int age = 20;
    float marks = 95.5;
    char grade = 'A';
    printf("age = %d\n", age);
    printf("marks = %.f\n", marks);
    printf("Grade = %c\n", grade);
```

Output :-