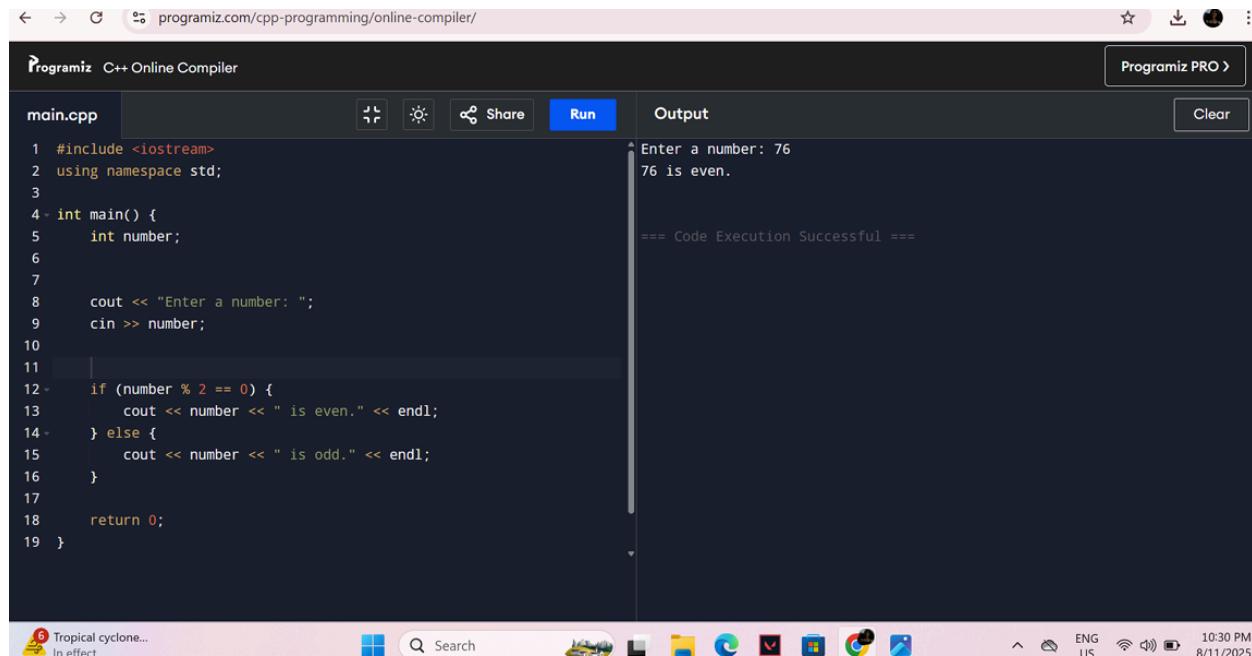


“My CPE007 journey”

Before taking the CPE007 course, my understanding of programming was so limited. I only knew the basics, and even simple activities felt a lot and overwhelming. Whenever I saw lines of C++ or any form of syntax, it looked like a complicated language that I wouldn't understand at that time. I remember struggling with the simplest tasks, spending hours trying to understand errors or wondering why my program wouldn't run the way I expected. I also remember writing an 18-line code and feeling like it was the longest program I could ever create. Debugging stressed me out, and I often doubted whether I could really understand how programs worked. My skills felt raw, my confidence was low, and programming seemed like a world too complex for me to enter. I would question myself everyday if this was the right path for me and would cry if my programs won't work haha. Walking into CPE007 at the beginning of the semester, I felt both nervous and unsure, unsure of how much I could really learn and how far I could actually improve.



The screenshot shows a web-based C++ compiler interface. The code in the editor is:

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 using namespace std;
3
4 int main() {
5     int number;
6
7     cout << "Enter a number: ";
8     cin >> number;
9
10
11    if (number % 2 == 0) {
12        cout << number << " is even." << endl;
13    } else {
14        cout << number << " is odd." << endl;
15    }
16
17    return 0;
18 }
```

The output window shows the result of running the program with the input '76':

```
Enter a number: 76
76 is even.

== Code Execution Successful ==
```

Seeing my old 19-line code now honestly feels both funny and satisfying at the same time. Back then, that tiny program felt like such a big challenge and I remembered being so proud just to make it run without errors. Looking at it now, it reminds me of how much I struggled with even the simplest logic yet shows how far I've come. As the course progressed, everything gradually changed. Through each class and lab activities, I started getting a greater understanding of programming basics. What was initially confusing eventually became clear. I became better at organizing my code, analyzing issues before resolving them, and experimenting without worrying about making mistakes. When I contrasted my most recent lab exercise with my first, I could see the growth more clearly. At the beginning of the semester, I never thought I could

write more than 100 lines of code, yet I went from writing short, basic programs to doing so with confidence.

Looking back now, I can clearly see how profoundly this course has shaped the way I think, work, and understand the world of programming. CPE007 did far more than teach me how to write code it taught me how to approach problems with patience. Every error of a code and every overwhelming activity became an opportunity to grow, especially with the guidance of our professor, Engr. Jimlord Quejado. His explanations, encouragement and consistent push for us to improve played a significant role in changing my mindset. The progress I made from writing short programs to creating code with over 100 lines is a reflection of the clarity I gained throughout this course. I learned to see challenges not as obstacles, but as stepping stones toward mastery. Most importantly, this journey helped me trust my own potential showing me that growth is achieved through steady effort and the right guidance. As I move forward, I carry with me the lessons i gained from this course that will continue to guide me in the next courses.

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