

Programming using C++

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Why C++?

- C++ shares similar syntax with many other programming languages
 - Java, JavaScript, C#, Objective C, PHP, etc.
- Centered around important CS concepts
 - Data types, control structures, object-oriented programming
- Wide range of applications and can be run in different environments
 - Servers, operating systems, games, embedded systems, etc.
 - C++ standard provides a portable interface. Programs can be compiled into executable for different systems.

Why C++ for competitive programming?

- C++ programs runs very fast
 - In many contests, problems are not guaranteed to be solvable by all languages
 - **IOI**: “The ISC and ITC do not want to put a guaranteed percentage on points that could be gained by a second class language, or have different time limits based on language.”
 - **Code Jam**: “... it is not guaranteed that any problem can be solved in any language; ... Just as in everyday software engineering, part of the contest is using the right tool for each job!”
 - **HKOI 2022/23**:
Heat event: **C++20** will be the **only** programming language
Final event: **C++20** will be the **only** first class programming language



Why C++ for competitive programming?

- C++ programs runs very fast
 - In many contests, problems are not guaranteed to be solvable by all languages
- C++ STL comes with useful algorithms and data structures
 - Sorting, binary search, stack, heap (priority_queue), binary search tree (set, map), etc.
- C++ programs are easy to debug
 - Compilation step can help uncover bugs

```
def has_odd(l):  
    flag = False  
    for elm in l:  
        if elm % 2 == 1:  
            flga = True  
    return flag
```

This Python program would not even cause runtime error



C++ standard

- Starting from 2011, 3 years a standard (C++11, C++14, ...)
 - The newest standard is C++20
 - In most cases, new standards are backward compatible
 - g++ flag: `-std=c++11`, `-std=c++14`, ...
- Different contests may support different standards
 - HKOI Online Judge, codeforces supports C++20
 - IOI, APIO supports C++17
 - NOI supports C++14
- Today I am going to teach you how to write **good** C++ programs
 - We will focus on making the best use of **new** C++ features
 - To learn more about data types and C++ language, you may refer to the 2019 slides :
 - [Introduction to C++](#)
 - [Data Processing](#)



Basic program structure

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main() {
    cout << "Hello, World!" << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Include library headers

`<iostream>` provides input and output functionality (cout and endl in this example)



Basic program structure

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h> ←  
using namespace std;  
int main() {  
    cout << "Hello, World!" << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

When using GCC C++ compiler, `<bits/stdc++.h>` provides most functions needed for competitive programming

- Shorter header
- Avoid compilation errors caused by missing header, especially in contests with no feedback



Basic program structure

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
int main() {
    cout << "Hello, World!" << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

This line is to “move” everything in the std namespace into our program

- Pros: No need to type std:: prefix
- Cons: Program may not be forward compatible



Basic program structure

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>

int main() {
    std::cout << "Hello, World!" << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Example without
using namespace std;

Basic program structure

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using std::cout;
using std::endl;
int main() {
    cout << "Hello, World!" << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Bring in specific symbols

This won't have the forward compatibility issue



Forward compatibility issue

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
// move first character to the end.
string move(string s) {
    return s.substr(1) + s[0];
}
int main() {
    cout << move("abcdef") << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

g++ -std=c++03 program.cpp -o program

Output: bcdefa

g++ -std=c++11 program.cpp -o program

Output: abcdef



Basic program structure


```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
int main() {
    cout << "Hello, World!" << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

This is the main program

Note that the return type is `int`

Basic program structure

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
int main() {
    cout << "Hello, World!" << endl;
    return 0;
}
```



```
(windows) a.exe && b.exe
(linux)    ./a && ./b
```

A return code of **0** indicates that the program ended successfully

Other numbers can be used to indicate that there is some warning / error

You can use && in the console to chain commands. In this example, program B runs only if program A returns 0

`return 0;` is optional



Basic program structure

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
int main() {
    cout << "Hello, World!" << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Send "Hello, World!" and line break to the output stream

`endl` also flushes the stream (useful for interactive tasks)



Input and output

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
int main() {
    int a, b;
    cin >> a >> b;
    cout << a + b << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Read two numbers a and b

Output their sum

Integers

int: 32 bits in most systems

long long: 64 bits in most systems

```
int main() {  
    cout << numeric_limits<int>::min() <<  
endl;  
    cout << numeric_limits<int>::max() <<  
endl;  
    cout << numeric_limits<long  
long>::min() << endl;  
    cout << numeric_limits<long  
long>::max() << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

```
-2147483648  
2147483647  
-9223372036854775808  
9223372036854775807
```



Arithmetic operators

name	syntax	name	syntax
addition	<code>a + b</code>	bitwise not	<code>~a</code>
subtraction	<code>a - b</code>	bitwise and	<code>a & b</code>
multiplication	<code>a * b</code>	bitwise or	<code>a b</code>
division	<code>a / b</code>	bitwise xor	<code>a ^ b</code>
modulo	<code>a % b</code>	bitwise left shift	<code>a << b</code>
		bitwise right shift	<code>a >> b</code>

To change the variable itself, you may also use `a += b`, `a -= b`, ...

For self increment / decrement, you may use `++` / `--`

- `x++`: return the original **value** of `x`, then increase `x` by 1
- `++x`: increase `x` by 1, then return the **reference** of `x`

Floating point numbers

float: 32 bits

double: 64 bits

long double: 128 bits

Supported operators: +, -, *, /



Division

In C++, we use / for both integer division and floating point division

If both dividend and divisor are integer types, integer division is performed

If any of the dividend and divisor is a floating point type, floating point division is performed

```
int main() {  
    cout << 5 / 2 << endl;  
    cout << 5.0 / 2 << endl;  
    cout << 5 / 2.0 << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

2
2.5
2.5



Output floating point numbers

By default, C++ output stream outputs large floating point numbers in scientific notation.

Use `cout << fixed` to output in fixed decimal point

Use `cout << setprecision(x)` to output in x decimal points (default is 6)

```
int main() {  
    double pi = acos(-1);  
    cout << pi << endl;  
    cout << fixed << pi << endl;  
    cout << setprecision(9) << pi << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

```
3.14159  
3.141593  
3.141592654
```



Characters

A 8-bit integer type

You can do arithmetic directly on it

In C++, we use single quote for characters and double quote for strings

```
int main() {  
    char c = 'A';  
    cout << c << endl;  
    c += 32;  
    cout << c << endl;  
    c = 48;  
    cout << c << endl;  
    cout << 'E' - 'A' << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

A
a
0
4



Boolean

Only 2 values: true and false

Logical operators:

name	syntax
negation	<code>!a // not a</code>
and	<code>a && b // a and b</code>
inclusive or	<code>a b // a or b</code>

Comparison operators

Compare two variables, return bool

name	syntax	name	syntax
equal to	<code>a == b</code>	less than or equal to	<code>a <= b</code>
not equal to	<code>a != b</code>	greater than or equal to	<code>a >= b</code>
less than	<code>a < b</code>	three-way comparison (since C++20, does not return bool)	<code>a <=> b</code>
greater than	<code>a > b</code>		

If statement

You can omit the bracket if there is only one statement

```
int main() {  
    int a, b;  
    cin >> a >> b;  
    if (a < b) {  
        cout << "a < b" << endl;  
    }  
    else if (a > b) {  
        cout << "a > b" << endl;  
    }  
    else {  
        cout << "a == b" << endl;  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

3 3

Output

a == b



For loop

Syntax: for (initial; condition; step)

You can omit the bracket if there is only one statement

```
int main() {  
    for (int i = 1; i <= 5; ++i) {  
        cout << i << endl;  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

1
2
3
4
5



Arrays

We can use a character array to store strings

```
int a[10];  
const char s[] = "HKOI";  
int main() {  
    cin >> a[0] >> a[1];  
    cout << a[0] + a[1] << endl;  
    cout << s << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

4 7

Output

11
HKOI



C++ array

With the exception of const arrays, (e.g. `const char s[]`) modern C++ discourages the use of raw arrays

The type and size of an array is fixed once declared

```
array<int, 10> a;
const char s[] = "HKOI";
int main() {
    cin >> a[0] >> a[1];
    cout << a[0] + a[1] << endl;
    cout << s << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Input

4 7

Output

11
HKOI




C++ array

Arrays can also be declared with initialization

The size and type will be automatically determined (class template argument deduction, since C++17). Here, the type of `a` is `array<int, 3>`

```
array a{4, 8, 3};  
int main() {  
    cout << a[0] + a[1] + a[2] << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```



Input

Output

15

Benefits of C++ array

For C array, the identifier degenerates into a pointer when passed into functions

Provides index checking via `.at(index)`, which makes debugging easier

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
int a[] = {4, 8, 3};
int main() {
    cout << a[0] + a[3] << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Likely Output: 4

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;
array a{4, 8, 3};
int main() {
    cout << a.at(0) + a.at(3) << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Runtime error

terminate called after throwing an instance of 'std::out_of_range'
what(): array::at: __n (which is 3) >= _Nm (which is 3)

[at](#)



Dynamic size array: vector

Very often the task requires us to read N integers

We can use vector, which is a dynamic size array to store the data

```
int main() {  
    int n;  
    cin >> n;  
    vector<int> a(n); ← Initial size  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {  
        cin >> a[i];  
    }  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {  
        sum += a[i];  
    }  
    cout << sum << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

6
1 4 2 8 5 7

Output

27



Dynamic size array: vector

Alternatively, we can start with an empty vector and use `push_back(x)` to add items to the vector while reading

```
int main() {  
    int n;  
    cin >> n;  
    vector<int> a; ← Empty vector  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {  
        int x;  
        cin >> x;  
        a.push_back(x);  
    }  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {  
        sum += a[i];  
    }  
    cout << sum << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

6
1 4 2 8 5 7

Output

27



vector assignment

We can replace the entire vector by assigning another vector to it

```
int main() {  
    vector a(4, 10);  
    cout << a[0] << endl;  
    a = vector{1, 2, 3};  
    cout << a[1] << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

10
2



Iterate over vector - int i

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};
int main() {
    for (int i = 0; i < a.size(); ++i) {
        cout << a[i] << endl;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Current size

Output

1
4
2
8
5
7

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};
int main() {
    for (int i = 0; i + 1 < a.size(); ++i) {
        cout << a[i] - a[i + 1] << endl;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Output

-3
2
-6
3
-2

Is it ok to write `i < a.size() - 1`?



Iterate over vector - range-based for loop

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};  
int main() {  
    for (int x : a) {  
        cout << x << endl;  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

1
4
2
8
5
7

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};  
int main() {  
    for (auto x : a) {  
        cout << x << endl;  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

1
4
2
8
5
7

You can use **auto** when type can be automatically determined



Modifying values in range-based loop

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};
int main() {
    for (int x : a) {
        x = 3;
    }
    cout << a[0] << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Value of a[0], a[1], ... is copied to x

Output

1

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};
int main() {
    for (int& x : a) {
        x = 3;
    }
    cout << a[0] << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Reference: x is same as a[0], a[1]...

Output

3



Iterate over vector - iterator

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};
int main() {
    for (auto it = a.begin(); it != a.end(); ++it) {
        cout << *it << endl;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

De-reference (get data being pointed at)

Output

1
4
2
8
5
7

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};
int main() {
    for (auto it = a.rbegin(); it != a.rend(); ++it) {
        cout << *it << endl;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Output

7
5
8
2
4
1

Type: vector<int>::iterator

.begin()

.end()



.rend()

.rbegin()

Type: vector<int>::reverse_iterator

Modifying values using iterator

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};  
int main() {  
    auto it = a.begin();  
    *it = 3;  
    cout << a[0] << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

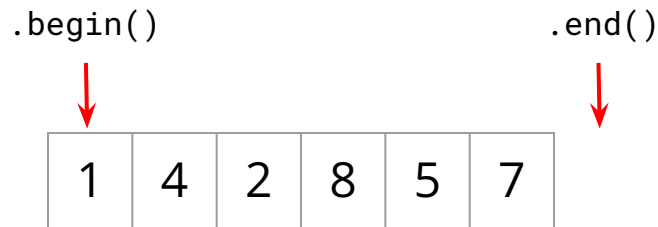
3

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};  
int main() {  
    auto it = a.end();  
    *it = 3;  
    cout << a[0] << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

1

Possibly
runtime error



Sort a vector

Use `sort(first, last)` to sort a vector in ascending order

Use `reverse(first, last)` to reverse a vector

```
vector a{1, 4, 2, 8, 5, 7};
int main() {
    sort(a.begin(), a.end());
    for (int x : a) {
        cout << x << " ";
    }
    cout << endl;
    reverse(a.begin(), a.end());
    for (int x : a) {
        cout << x << " ";
    }
    cout << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
1 2 4 5 7 8
8 7 5 4 2 1
```

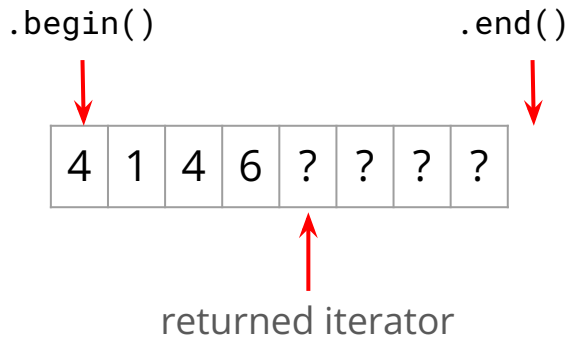


Removing duplicates from a vector

Use `unique(first, last)` to move the first element in each identical group to the front, keeping their relative order. The returned iterator points to the position after the last remaining element.

Use `erase(first, last)` to remove elements from a vector

```
vector a{4, 4, 1, 1, 1, 4, 6, 6};
int main() {
    auto it = unique(a.begin(), a.end());
    for (int x : a) {
        cout << x << " ";
    }
    cout << endl;
    a.erase(it, a.end());
    for (int x : a) {
        cout << x << " ";
    }
    cout << endl;
    return 0;
}
```



Output

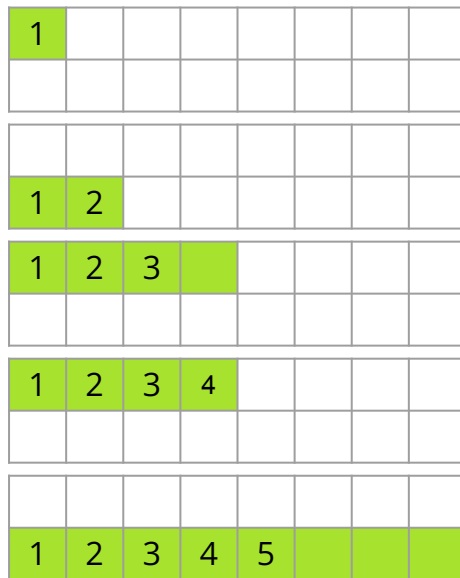
```
4 1 4 6 1 4 6 6
4 1 4 6
```

Internal storage

Vector always store the data in contiguous segment of memory

When it is already full and you try to push one more element, it finds a larger piece of memory elsewhere and move all the data there

```
int main() {
    vector<int> a;
    cout << a.capacity() << " ";
    cout << a.data() << endl;
    for (int i = 1; i <= 6; ++i) {
        a.push_back(i);
        cout << a.capacity() << " ";
        cout << a.data() << endl;
    }
    return 0;
}
```



Output

```
0 0
1 0x55d4f682d2c0
2 0x55d4f682d2e0
4 0x55d4f682d2c0
4 0x55d4f682d2c0
8 0x55d4f682d300
8 0x55d4f682d300
```


Time complexity for push_back

Assume that you call `push_back(x)` N times.

The total cost comprises of:

- Cost of adding an element
 - 1 operation per `push_back`
 - Total N operations for N `push_back`
- Cost of moving elements when vector is full
 - 1, 2, 4, 8, ..., 2^k (where $2^k < N$)
 - The sum of above = $2^{k+1} - 1 < 2N$

Total cost for N `push_back` = $N + (<2N) < 3N$, and therefore is $O(N)$

We can say that `push_back` is amortized $O(1)$

Be careful about iterators

Some manipulation operations, especially when they affect the internal storage, **invalidate** iterators. Read the docs for details

If unsure, always get fresh iterators

```
int main() {  
    vector a{1, 2, 3};  
    auto it = a.begin();  
    cout << a.capacity() << " " << *it << endl;  
    a.push_back(4); // it is invalidated.  
    cout << a.capacity() << " " << *it << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
3 1  
6 7890304
```



2D vector

```
vector<vector<int>> a{{1, 2, 3}, {4}, {5, 6}};  
int main() {  
    cout << a[0].size() << endl;  
    cout << a[1].size() << endl;  
    cout << a[2].size() << endl;  
    cout << a[2][0] << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

3
1
2
5

```
int main() {  
    int n = 4, m = 5;  
    vector a(n, vector<int>(m));  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < m; ++j) {  
            cin >> a[i][j];  
        }  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```

Remember move()?

```
int main() {  
    vector<vector<int>> a;  
    vector b{1, 2, 3};  
    cout << b.data() << endl;  
    a.push_back(b);  
    cout << a[0].data() << endl;  
    cout << b.size() << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
0x556c54534eb0  
0x556c54535300  
3
```

Data is copied

```
int main() {  
    vector<vector<int>> a;  
    vector b{1, 2, 3};  
    cout << b.data() << endl;  
    a.push_back(move(b));  
    cout << a[0].data() << endl;  
    cout << b.size() << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
0x563b688d4eb0  
0x563b688d4eb0  
0
```

Not guaranteed
to be 0

`std::move()` is complicated
No need to care about it in competitive programming

[data](#) [move](#)



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vector<bool>

vector<bool> is a very special kind of vector

Its implementation allows efficient storage of bools, 1 bit (vs 1 byte) for each bool

Some vector functions cannot be used

```
vector<bool> a{true, false, true};  
int main() {  
    cout << a[0] << a[1] << a[2] << endl;  
    cout << a.capacity() << endl;  
    a.flip();  
    cout << a[0] << a[1] << a[2] << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
101  
64  
010
```

Strings

C++ strings are very easy to use

You can concatenate strings together using the + operator

```
int main() {  
    string s = "ab";  
    string t = "d";  
    s += 'c'; // append a character  
    t += "ef"; // append a string  
    cout << s.length() << endl;  
    cout << s + t << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
3  
abcdef
```



Read one line

Use getline to read one line

```
int main() {  
    string s;  
    getline(cin, s);  
    cout << s << endl;  
    cin >> s;  
    cout << s << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Hello World
Hello World

Output

Hello World
Hello



Iterate over string

You can also use ranged-based loop to iterate over a string

```
int main() {  
    string s = "abcdef";  
    for (int i = 0; i < s.length(); ++i) {  
        cout << s[i] << endl;  
    }  
    for (char& c : s) {  
        c -= 32;  
    }  
    cout << s << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
a  
b  
c  
d  
e  
f  
ABCDEF
```



Using string::iterator

You can get iterators from string to perform operations similar to vector

```
int main() {  
    string s = "abcdef";  
    for (auto it = s.begin(); it != s.end(); ++it) {  
        cout << *it << endl;  
    }  
    reverse(s.begin(), s.end());  
    cout << s << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
a  
b  
c  
d  
e  
f  
fedcba
```



String comparison

You can compare strings directly using comparison operators

You can also use `.compare()`, which returns 0 when the strings are equal, negative number when the left string is smaller, and positive otherwise

```
int main() {  
    cout << ("abc"s == "abc"s) << endl;  
    cout << ("abc"s < "def"s) << endl;  
    cout << ("abcd"s > "abc"s) << endl;  
    cout << "abc"s.compare("abx") << endl;  
    cout << "xyz"s.compare("xyz") << endl;  
    cout << "def"s.compare("a") << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
1  
1  
1  
-21  
0  
3
```

It can be any negative integer

It can be any positive integer



Find string

Syntax: `s.find(char / string, (optional)pos)`

Returns `string::npos` if not found

```
int main() {  
    int n;  
    string s = "This is a string";  
    n = s.find("is");  
    cout << n << endl;  
    n = s.find("is", 5);  
    cout << n << endl;  
    n = s.find('q');  
    cout << n << endl;  
    cout << string::npos << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

```
2  
5  
-1  
18446744073709551615
```



Modify string

`s.insert(pos, string, (optional)count)`

`s.erase(pos, (optional)count)`

`s.replace(pos, count, string, (optional)count2)`

```
int main() {  
    string s = "abc";  
    s.insert(1, "abc", 2);  
    cout << s << endl;  
    s.erase(3);  
    cout << s << endl;  
    s.replace(1, 1, "123");  
    cout << s << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

aabbc
aab
a123b



Get substring

syntax: s.substr(pos, (optional)count)

Returns the substring

```
int main() {  
    string s = "https://judge.hkoi.org";  
    cout << s.substr(14, 4) << endl;  
    cout << s.substr(8) << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

hkoi
judge.hkoi.org



String conversion (since C++11)

Use `stoi`, `stod`, etc. to convert the string to a number type

Use `to_string` to convert a number type to string

```
int main() {  
    string s = "123";  
    int a = stoi(s);  
    cout << to_string(a + 1) << endl;  
    s += ".456";  
    double b = stod(s);  
    cout << to_string(b + 0.123) << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

Output

124
123.579000



Break

Please read J021 and M2102 problem statement

Training session will resume at 11:50



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Functions

Functions with return type should have a return statement.

Void functions can omit the return statement.

```
int Square(int x) {  
    return x * x;  
}  
void PrintMax(int a, int b, int c) {  
    cout << max(a, max(b, c)) << endl;  
}  
int main() {  
    cout << Square(5) << endl;  
    PrintMax(4, 9, 1);  
    return 0;  
}
```


Output

25
9



Early Return

If you have a return statement at the end of a if block, no need to add else.

```
void PrintMax(int a, int b, int c) {  
    if (a > b && a > c) {  
        cout << a << endl;  
        return;   
    }  
    cout << (b > c ? b : c) << endl;  
}  
int main() {  
    PrintMax(4, 9, 1);  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

9



Pass by reference

Pass by reference makes the identifier refer to the same variable specified in the argument. Therefore, the value can be changed inside the function.

```
void PassByValue(int a) {  
    a = 5;  
}  
void PassByReference(int& a) {  
    a = 5;  
}  
int main() {  
    int x = 1;  
    int y = 2;  
    PassByValue(x);  
    PassByReference(y);  
    cout << x << " " << y << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Value 1

Refers to y

Output

1 5



Pass by reference: vector

All types are passed by value. (unlike Java / Javascript)

```
void PassByValue(vector<int> a) {  
    a[0] = 5;  
}  
void PassByReference(vector<int>& a) {  
    a[0] = 5;  
}  
int main() {  
    vector<int> x{1};  
    vector<int> y{2};  
    PassByValue(x);  
    PassByReference(y);  
    cout << x[0] << " " << y[0] << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Value {1}

Refers to y

Output

1 5



Pass by value is slow

```
int PassByValue(string s) {  
    return s.length();  
}  
int PassByReference(string& s) {  
    return s.length();  
}  
int main() {  
    auto start_time = chrono::steady_clock::now();  
    string s = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz";  
    int total = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < 10000000; ++i) {  
        total += PassByValue(s);  
    }  
    cout << total << endl;  
    auto end_time = chrono::steady_clock::now();  
    cout << chrono::duration<double>(end_time - start_time).count() << endl;  
    start_time = end_time;  
    total = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < 10000000; ++i) {  
        total += PassByReference(s);  
    }  
    cout << total << endl;  
    end_time = chrono::steady_clock::now();  
    cout << chrono::duration<double>(end_time - start_time).count() << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

```
260000000  
2.6825  
260000000  
0.0452582
```

PassByValue:


A new string a is created
and the content is
copied from s

[now duration](#)

Cannot pass something other than variable by reference

```
int PassByReference(string& s) {  
    return s.length();  
}  
  
int main() {  
    auto start_time = chrono::steady_clock::now();  
    string s = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz";  
    int total = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < 10000000; ++i) {  
        total += PassByReference(s);  
        // total += PassByReference("123");  
    }  
    cout << total << endl;  
    auto end_time = chrono::steady_clock::now();  
    cout << chrono::duration<double>(end_time - start_time).count() << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Compilation
Error



Output

260000000
0.050572

Technical term:
To pass by reference,
the argument must be
an lvalue.

Pass by Const Reference

```
int PassByConstReference(const string& s) {  
    return s.length();  
}  
int main() {  
    auto start_time = chrono::steady_clock::now();  
    string s = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz";  
    int total = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < 10000000; ++i) {  
        total += PassByConstReference(s);  
        total += PassByConstReference("abc");  
    }  
    cout << total << endl;  
    auto end_time = chrono::steady_clock::now();  
    cout << chrono::duration<double>(end_time - start_time).count() << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```


Output

290000000
1.36043

Don't do this for
primitives such as
int, double, bool



Template



```
template<class I>
ostream& operator<< (ostream& os,
                    const vector<I>& c) {
    for (auto&& x : c) {
        cout << x << " ";
    }
    cout << endl;
    return os;
}

int main() {
    vector<int> a{1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    cout << a;
    vector<double> b{1.2, 3.4, 5.6};
    cout << b;
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
1 2 3 4 5
1.2 3.4 5.6
```



Output a 2D vector

```
template<class I>
ostream& operator<< (ostream& os,
                    const vector<I>& c) {
    for (auto&& x : c) {
        cout << x << " ";
    }
    cout << endl;
    return os;
}

int main() {
    vector<vector<int>> a{{11, 12, 13},
                        {21, 22},
                        {31, 32, 33}};

    cout << a;
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
11 12 13
21 22
31 32 33
```



Pair

Pair can hold two values (first, second) of possibly different types.

Pairs can be compared. The first value will be compared first. If they are equal, the second value will be compared.

```
int n;  
cin >> n;  
vector<pair<int, string>> students(n);  
for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {  
    cin >> students[i].first >> students[i].second;  
}  
sort(students.begin(), students.end());  
for (auto& student : students) {  
    cout << student.first << " ";  
    cout << student.second << endl;  
}
```

Input

```
4  
3 Percy  
2 Ian  
3 Jeremy  
1 Tony
```

Output

```
1 Tony  
2 Ian  
3 Jeremy  
3 Percy
```



Pair

Pair can be useful to return multiple values.

```
pair<int, int> CountLetters(const string& s) {  
    int upper = 0, lower = 0;  
    for (char c : s) {  
        upper += isupper(c) > 0;  
        lower += islower(c) > 0;  
    }  
    return {upper, lower};  
}  
  
int main() {  
    auto p = CountLetters("Hello, World!");  
    cout << p.first << " " << p.second << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

2 8



Tuple

What about more values?

```
tuple<int, int, int> CountLetters(const string& s) {  
    int upper = 0, lower = 0, spaces = 0;  
    for (char c : s) {  
        upper += isupper(c) > 0;  
        lower += islower(c) > 0;  
        spaces += c == ' '  
    }  
    return {upper, lower, spaces};  
}  
  
int main() {  
    auto p = CountLetters("Hello, World!");  
    cout << get<0>(p) << " " << get<1>(p) << " "  
    cout << get<2>(p) << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output

2 8 1



J021 Date sorting

Given N dates, sort the dates in chronological order.

Input

3

4, July 1981

18, October 1982

22, December 1981

Output

4, July 1981

22, December 1981

18, October 1982

Reading the input

Let's read one line of input.

`cin.get()` reads the next character, which is comma here.

```
int day, year;
string month_string;
cin >> day;
cin.get();
cin >> month_string >> year;
cout << day << endl;
cout << month_string << endl;
cout << year << endl;
```

Input

20, February 2021

Output

20
February
2021



Converting the month into an integer

```
const vector<string> kMonths =  
    {"January", "February", "March", "April", "May", "June",  
     "July", "August", "September", "October", "November", "December"};  
int main() {  
    int day, month, year;  
    string month_string;  
    cin >> day;  
    cin.get();  
    cin >> month_string >> year;  
    auto it = find(kMonths.begin(), kMonths.end(), month_string);  
    month = distance(kMonths.begin(), it);  
    cout << day << endl;  
    cout << month << endl;  
    cout << year << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

20, February 2021

Output

20
1
2021



Storing the dates in a vector<tuple<int, int, int>>

```
const vector<string> kMonths =
    {"January", "February", "March", "April", "May", "June",
     "July", "August", "September", "October", "November", "December"};
int main() {
    int n;
    cin >> n;
    vector<tuple<int, int, int>> dates;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        int day, month, year;
        string month_string;
        cin >> day;
        cin.get();
        cin >> month_string >> year;
        auto it = find(kMonths.begin(), kMonths.end(), month_string);
        month = distance(kMonths.begin(), it);
        dates.push_back({year, month, day});
        // dates.emplace_back(year, month, day);
    }
    cout << get<1>(dates[2]) << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

← The most significant component should go first

← You can also use `emplace_back`

Input

```
3
4, July 1981
18, October 1982
22, December 1981
```

Output

```
11
```



Alternative way

```
const vector<string> kMonths =
    {"January", "February", "March", "April", "May", "June",
     "July", "August", "September", "October", "November", "December"};
int main() {
    int n;
    cin >> n;
    vector<tuple<int, int, int>> dates(n);
    for (auto& date : dates) {
        cin >> get<2>(date);
        cin.get();
        string month_string;
        cin >> month_string >> get<0>(date);
        auto it = find(kMonths.begin(), kMonths.end(), month_string);
        get<1>(date) = distance(kMonths.begin(), it);
    }
    cout << get<1>(dates[2]) << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Input

```
3
4, July 1981
18, October 1982
22, December 1981
```

Output

```
11
```


Even fancier

```
const vector<string> kMonths =
    {"January", "February", "March", "April", "May", "June",
     "July", "August", "September", "October", "November", "December"};
int main() {
    int n;
    cin >> n;
    vector<tuple<int, int, int>> dates(n);
    for (auto& [year, month, day] : dates) {
        cin >> day;
        cin.get();
        string month_string;
        cin >> month_string >> year;
        auto it = find(kMonths.begin(), kMonths.end(), month_string);
        month = distance(kMonths.begin(), it);
    }
    cout << get<1>(dates[2]) << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Structured binding declaration (since C++17), must be auto

Input

```
3
4, July 1981
18, October 1982
22, December 1981
```

Output

```
11
```



Output the sorted dates

```
vector<tuple<int, int, int>> dates(n);  
... input ...  
sort(dates.begin(), dates.end());  
for (auto& date : dates) {  
    cout << get<2>(date) << ", ";  
    cout << kMonths[get<1>(date)] << " ";  
    cout << get<0>(date) << endl;  
}  
return 0;  
}
```

Solved with only 25 lines!

Input

```
3  
4, July 1981  
18, October 1982  
22, December 1981
```

Output











```
4, July 1981  
22, December 1981  
18, October 1982
```



M2102 Social Distancing and miamia

Input	Output
<pre>4 &1.2 (120) {4} 1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5,,</pre>	9.200000
<pre>5 &1 (16 0){8}1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7 ,{4}[1,8],[2,7],[3,6],(240)[4,5],</pre>	4.625000

M2102 Social Distancing and miamia

	Contestant	M2101 Social Distancing and Exam	M2102 Social Distancing and miamia
1		😴 20 / 0:09	😴 20 / 0:21
2		😴 20 / 2:09	😴 20 / 2:08
3	 Why did I do q2 with Python	😴 20 / 0:18	13
4		😴 20 / 0:18	😴 20 / 0:31
5		😴 20 / 0:04	😴 20 / 0:12
6		😴 20 / 2:27	😴 20 / 1:34
7		😴 20 / 1:27	😴 20 / 1:29
8		😴 20 / 0:21	😴 20 / 0:51
9		😴 20 / 0:09	😴 20 / 0:30
9		😴 20 / 0:30	😴 20 / 2:58

Reading the start time

```
int main() {  
    int n;  
    cin >> n;  
    char c;  
    cin >> c;  
    double current_time;  
    cin >> current_time;  
    cout << current_time<< endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Input

```
4  
&1.2  
(120)  
{4}  
1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5,,
```

Output

```
1.2
```



Reading the rest of the data - Method 1

```
...  
string s;  
for (int i = 1; i < n; ++i) {  
    string t;  
    cin >> t;  
    s += t;  
}  
cout << s << endl;
```

Input

4
↓
&1.2
(120)
{4}
1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5,,

Output

(120){4}1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5,,



Reading the rest of the data - Method 2

```
int main() {
    int n;
    cin >> n;
    char c;
    cin >> c;
    double current_time;
    cin >> current_time;
    string s = accumulate(istream_iterator<string>(cin),
                          istream_iterator<string>(), string());
    cout << s << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

End of stream

Empty string

Input

4
&1.2
(120)
{4}
1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5,,

Output

(120){4}1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5,,

Uses operator + to concatenate strings.

Note: press CTRL+Z (windows) / CTRL+D (linux)
for end-of-file



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[accumulate](#)
[istream iterator](#)

Tokenize the input

Break down the string into space separated tokens.

(120){4}1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5,,



bpm 120 notevalue 4 1,,2,,3,,4,,8,,7,,6,,5

(160){8}1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7,{4}[1,8],[2,7],[3,6],(240)[4,5],



bpm 160 notevalue 8 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7, notevalue 4 [1,8] ,
[2,7] , [3,6] , bpm 240 [4,5] ,



Tokenize the input

```
stringstream ss;
for (char c : s) {
    if (c == '(') {
        ss << " bpm ";
    } else if (c == '{') {
        ss << " note_value ";
    } else if (c == '[') {
        ss << " [";
    } else if (c == ')' || c == '}' || c == ']') {
        ss << " ";
    } else {
        ss << c;
    }
}
cout << ss.str() << endl;
```

Change closing brackets to whitespace

[stringstream](#)



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Input

```
5
&1
(16
0){8}1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7
,{4}[1,8],[2,7],[3,6] ,(240)[4,5
],
```

Output

```
bpm 160  notevalue 8
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7,
notevalue 4  [1,8 , [2,7 , [3,6 ,
bpm 240  [4,5 ,
```

Process BPM and note value

```
double bpm = 0, note_value = 0;
while (!ss.eof()) {
    string token;
    ss >> token;
    if (token == "bpm") {
        ss >> bpm;
        cout << bpm << endl;
    } else if (token == "note_value") {
        ss >> note_value;
        cout << note_value << endl;
    }
}
```

stringstream is useful for type conversions



Input

```
5
&1
(16
0){8}1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7
,{4}[1,8],[2,7],[3,6],(240)[4,5
],
```

ss

```
bpm 160  notevalue 8
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7,
notevalue 4  [1,8 , [2,7 , [3,6 ,
bpm 240  [4,5 ,
```

Output

```
160
8
4
240
```

Process beats and ignore brackets

```
double bpm = 0, note_value = 0;
while (!ss.eof()) {
    string token;
    ss >> token;
    if (token == "bpm") {
        ss >> bpm;
    } else if (token == "note_value") {
        ss >> note_value;
    } else if (token[0] != '[') {
        int commas = count(token.begin(), token.end(), ',');
        current_time += commas * 240.0 / bpm / note_value;
    }
}
cout << fixed << setprecision(9) << current_time << endl;
```

Set to fixed point format (default = scientific notation)

Precision = 9 d.p. is sufficient.



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Input

```
5
&1
(16
0){8}1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7
,{4}[1,8],[2,7],[3,6],(240)[4,5
],
```

ss

```
bpm 160  notevalue 8
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1,8,2,7,
notevalue 4  [1,8 , [2,7 , [3,6 ,
bpm 240  [4,5 ,
```

Output

```
4.625000000
```

[count](#) [fixed](#) [setprecision](#)

Macros

Some competitive programmers use macros to shorten their code.

```
#define x first
#define y second
#define pii pair<int,int>
#define ll long long
#define pll pair<ll,ll>
#define pbb pair<bool,bool>
#define mp make_pair
#define pb push_back
#define pf push_front
#define popb pop_back
#define popf pop_front
#define xmod (ll)(1e9+7)
#define hmod 1286031825167LL
```

This is discouraged for several reasons:

- It makes code hard to read for others
- It makes the code longer (harder to find main)
- It is easy to introduce subtle bugs (e.g. missing parentheses: `#define sum(a, b) a + b`)
- It makes debugging harder



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dxxxxxxe

```
1 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
2 using namespace std;
3 typedef array<int,4> arin;
4 vector<arin>v;
5 bool sw=false;
6 void out(int a,int b,int c,int d){
7     if(!sw) v.push_back({a,b,c,d});
8     else v.push_back({b,a,d,c});
```

mxxxxxxg

```
1 #include<bits/stdc++.h>
2 using namespace std;
3 int r,c;
4 vector< pair< pair<int,int>, pair<int,int> > >
5 bool a[105][105];
6 int dx[8] = {0, 0, 1, -1, 1, 1, -1, -1};
7 int dy[8] = {1, -1, 0, 0, -1, 1, -1, 1};
```

```
/**
 *   author:  tourist
 *   created: 28.01.2021 19:09:28
 **/
#include <bits/stdc++.h>

using namespace std;

int main() {
```

By Benq, contest: Educational Cod

```
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
using namespace std;

// returns the first index
int firstAtLeast(const vect
```

Conclusion

Use a lot of library functions != Good programs

[cppreference](#) is your good friend

Exercises

[01007 Packet Re-assembly](#)

[01009 Words](#)

[M1902 Zero and Scheduling Problem](#)

[M2001 Corona and WFH](#)

Reference

<https://en.cppreference.com>

<https://assets.hkoi.org/training2019/cpp.pdf>

<https://assets.hkoi.org/training2021/cpp.pdf>