Sequence of Characters

- The procedure `getCharacter()` is used to read the next byte into a buffer.

- The return value is either the number of read bytes or 0, which indicates end of file (EOF).

- Any input file is nothing more than a **sequence of characters** to the scanner. It will even accept meaningless sequences as long as it consists of valid symbols in the specified language.

Whitespace

- <u>Whitespace</u> and comments do not change the semantics of code and could even be omitted (<u>minification</u>). Their purpose is to make the code more readable.

- The scanner implements whitespace and comments by simply ignoring them using the procedure <u>`findNextCharacter()`</u>.

Sequence of Characters

- The procedure `getCharacter()` is used to read the next byte into a buffer.

- The return value is either the number of read bytes or 0, which indicates end of file (EOF).

- Any input file is nothing more than a **sequence of characters** to the scanner. It will even accept meaningless sequences as long as it consists of valid symbols in the specified language.