COMP1511 - Programming Fundamentals

Week 3 - Lecture 5

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Specific Issues

- Header comment doesn't show the program's intentions
- No blank lines separating different components
- Multiple expressions on the same line
- Inconsistent indenting不一級的确性
- Inconsistent spacing 水-級的间隔
- Variable names don't make any sense
- Comments don't mean anything
- Inconsistent bracketing of if statements
- Bracketing is not indented () 入稿せ
- Inconsistent structure of identical code blocks
- The easter egg there's actually incorrect code also!

Keeping your house (code) clean

Regular care is always less work than a big cleanout

- Write comments before code
- Name your variables before you use them
- { everything inside gets indented 4 spaces
- Iine up your closing brackets vertically with the line that opened them
- One expression per line
- Maintain consistency in spacing

Comments before code

Comments before code. It's like planning ahead

- Making plans with comments
- You can fill them out with correct code later
- Some of these comments can stay even after you've written the code

```
// Checking against the target value
if () {
    // success
} else if () {
    // tie
} else {
    // failure (all other possibilities)
}
```

Indentation

A common convention is to use 4 spaces for indentation

```
int main (void) {
    // everything in here is indented 4 spaces
    int total = 5;
    if (total > 10) {
        // everything in here is indented 4 more
        total = 10;
    // this closing curly bracket lines up
    // vertically with the if statement
    // that opened it
// this curly bracket lines up vertically
// with the main function that opened it
```

One expression per line

Any single expression that runs should have its own line

```
int main (void) {
    // NOT LIKE THIS!
    int numOne; int numTwe;
    numOne = 25; numTwo = numOne + 10;
    if (numOne < numTwo) { numOne = numTwo; }
}</pre>
```

```
int main (void) {
    // Like this :)
    int numOne;
    int numTwo;
    numOne = 25;
    numTwo = numOne + 10;
    if (numOne < numTwo) {
        numOne = numTwo;
    }
}</pre>
```

Spacing

Operators need space to be easily read

```
int main (void) {
    // NOT LIKE THIS!
    int a;
    int b;
    int total=0;
    if(a<b&&b>=15) {
        total=a+b;
    }
}
```

```
int main (void) {
    // Like this :)
    int a;
    int b;
    int total = 0;
    if (a < b && b >= 15) {
        total = a + b;
    }
}
```

Weekly Tests

one hour only

Self Invigilated Weekly Tests start this week

- A mini exam you run yourself
- The detailed rules are in the test itself.
- Releases on Thursday and you will have one week to complete it
- Use it as a way to test your progress so far
- Great practice for coding with time pressure and limited resources (exams or job interviews)

Functions

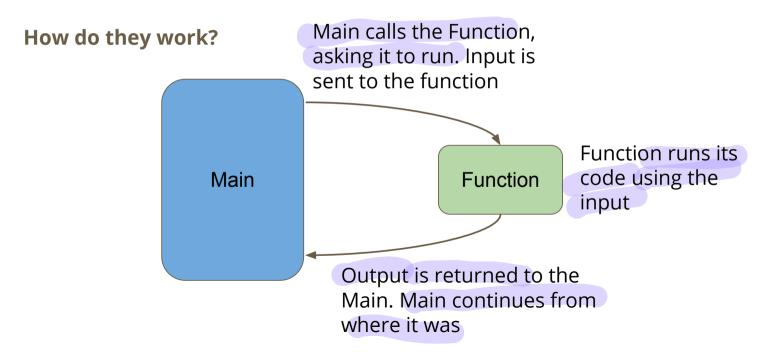
Let's introduce at functions

- We've already been using some functions!
- **main** is a function
- printf and scanf are also functions

What is a function?

- A separate piece of code identified by a name
- It has inputs and an output
- If we "call" a function it will run the code in the function

Functions



Function Syntax

We write a function with (in order left to right):

- An output (known as the function's type)
- A name
- Zero or more input(s) (also known as function parameters)
- A body of code in curly brackets

```
// a function that adds two numbers together
int add (int a, int b) {
   return a + b;
}
```

Return

An important keyword in a function

- return will deliver the output of a function
- return will also stop the function running and return to where it was called from

How is a function used?

If a function already exists (like printf)

- We can use a function by calling it by name
- And providing it with input(s) of the correct type(s)

```
// using the add function
int main (void) {
   int firstNumber = 4;
   int secondNumber = 6;
   int total;

   total = add(firstNumber, secondNumber);
   return 0;
}
```

Compilers and Functions

How does our main know what our function is?

- A compiler will process our code, line by line, from top to bottom
- If it has seen something before, it will know its name

```
// An example using variables
int main (void) {
    // declaring a variable means it's usable later
    int number = 1;

    // this next section won't work because the compiler
    // doesn't know about otherNumber before it's used
    int total = number + otherNumber;
    int otherNumber = 5;
}
```

Functions and Declaration

We need to declare a function before it can be used

```
a function can be declared without being fully
// written (defined) until later
int add (int a, int b); ()
int main (void) {
    int firstNumber = 4;
    int secondNumber = 6;
    int total = add(firstNumber, secondNumber);
    return 0:
   the function is defined here
int add (int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
```

Void Functions

We can also run functions that return no output

- We can use a void function if we don't need anything back from it
- The return keyword will be used without a value in a void function

```
// a function of type "void"
// It will not give anything back to whatever function
// called it, but it might still be of use to us
void add (int a, int b) {
   int total = a + b;
   printf("The total is %d", total);
}
```