

# POINTER VARIABLES

## Short Answer

1. \* Distinguish between a *pointer to a constant* and a *constant pointer*.  
Write the definitions of `ptr1`, which is a *pointer to a constant integer*, and `ptr2`, which is a *constant pointer to an integer*.
2. \* What is a *null pointer*? What is a *void pointer*?
3. \* What is the purpose of the `new/delete` operator?
4. \* Consider the following C++ statement, `int count = 10;`  
Write a statement that displays the address of the variable `count`.  
Write a statement that displays the content held by the variable `count`.
5. \* Write C++ statements to complete the following requirements consecutively
  - Define a double pointer variable, `dblPtr`, which is a pointer to a double value.
  - Dynamically allocates memory for the pointer variable `dblPtr` created above.
  - Release the dynamic memory that was requested for `dblPtr`.
6. \*\* What are the advantages of declaring a pointer parameter as a *constant pointer*?
7. \*\* Distinguish these two following C++ statements, `++*ptr;` and `*ptr++;`
8. \*\* Suppose you want to copy the content held in the array `b[10]` to the array `a[10]`.  
Could it possibly be done with the following C++ statement, `b = a;` ? Justify your answer.
9. \*\* Let `ptr` be a pointer to an integer and `ptr` holds the address `<120>`. On a system with 4-byte integers, what address will be in `ptr` after the following C++ statement, `ptr += 10;` ?
10. \*\* Consider the following C++ statements,
 

```
char arr[] = "Surprised";
const char *ptr = "Surprised";
```

 Would `arr[3]` and `ptr[3]` fetch the same character? Justify your answer.
11. \*\* What is the output of the following C++ code fragment?
 

```
int arr[10][20];
cout << sizeof(arr[4]);
```
12. \*\* Write a C++ function called `exchange` that takes two integer pointer variables and exchanges the values in those variables.
13. \*\* Consider the following C++ definition of an array, `int arr[2] = {0, 1, 2, 3};`  
Point out the (syntax/logic/semantic) errors if there is any.

- 14.\*\* Consider the following C++ code fragment. Identify the syntax/logic/semantic errors in the code fragment if there is any. Suggest the correction for each of the errors.

```
int *findMax(int *a, int *b) {
    int max;
    if(*a > *b)
        max=*a;
    else
        max = *b;
    Return &max;
}
int main() {
    int x=7, y=15, max;
    max = findMax(&x, &y);
    return 0;
}
```

- 15.\*\* Consider the following C++ definition, `const int numbers[SIZE] = { 18, 17, 12, 14 };` Suppose you pass `numbers` to the function `processArray` by using the following statement, `processArray(numbers, SIZE);` Write the correct C++ function header for `processArray`.

- 16.\*\* Consider the following C++ code fragment.

```
int x = 7;
int *iptr = &x;
```

What will be displayed if you send the expression `*iptr` to `cout`?

What happens if you send the expression `iptr` to `cout`?

- 17.\*\* What is the output of the following C++ code fragment? Note that the notation *nullptr* here refers to the null pointer, while it can be represented differently in various IDEs.

```
int x = 50, y = 60, z = 70;
int *ptr = nullptr;
cout << x << " " << y << " " << z << endl;
ptr = &x;
*ptr *= 10;
ptr = &y;
*ptr *= 5;
ptr = &z;
*ptr *= 2;
cout << x << " " << y << " " << z << endl;
```

- 18.\*\* Will the following C++ program compile without error? If yes, what will the output of the following program be? If no, point out the error(s).

```

int foo(int i) { return i; }
int main() {
    int a = 2;
    int *b = &a;
    cout << foo(*b) << endl;
    return 0;
}

```

19.\*\*\* Given arr is an array of integers. Will each of the below code segments show “True” or “False”?

A	<pre> if (arr &lt; &amp;arr[1])     cout &lt;&lt; "True"; else     cout &lt;&lt; "False"; </pre>	C	<pre> if (arr != &amp;arr[2])     cout &lt;&lt; "True"; else     cout &lt;&lt; "False"; </pre>
B	<pre> if (&amp;arr[4] &lt; &amp;arr[1])     cout &lt;&lt; "True"; else     cout &lt;&lt; "False"; </pre>	D	<pre> if (arr != &amp;arr[0])     cout &lt;&lt; "True"; else     cout &lt;&lt; "False"; </pre>

20.\*\*\* Is each of the following definitions valid or invalid? If any is invalid, why?

A	<pre> int ivar; int *iptr = &amp;ivar; </pre>	D	<pre> float fvar; int *iptr = &amp;fvar; </pre>
B	<pre> int ivar, *iptr = &amp;ivar; </pre>	E	<pre> int nums[50], *iptr = nums; </pre>
C	<pre> int *iptr = &amp;ivar; int ivar; </pre>		

## Fill-in-the-Blank

1. \* Fill in each of the following blanks with an appropriate terminology.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ is a special variable that holds a memory address.
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ operator gives you the address of a variable while the \_\_\_\_\_ operator gets you the value from the address.
  
2. \*\* How many bytes of memory are allocated for the following variables? Assume that a character takes 1 byte, an integer takes 4 bytes, a floating-point number takes 4 bytes, and a pointer takes 8 bytes.
  - `float a[] = {4.75};` \_\_\_\_\_
  - `char b[] = "4.75";` \_\_\_\_\_
  - `const char *b = "4.75";` \_\_\_\_\_
  - `char animals[][10] = {"lion", "elephant", "tiger", "cat"};` \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - `int c[10] = {1,2,3};` \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. \*\* Consider the following C++ code fragment.

```
int a[] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
*(a+2) += 3;
```

The value of `a[2]` after the fragment is executed is \_\_\_\_\_.
  
4. \*\* Consider the following C++ code fragment.

```
int a[] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
int* p = a + 1;
p++; (*p)++;
```

The value of `p` after the fragment is executed is \_\_\_\_\_.
  
5. \*\* Consider the following C++ statements.

```
double value = 29.7;
double *ptr = &value;
```

Write a `cout` statement that uses `ptr` to display the content of `value`.

```
cout << _____ ;
```
  
6. \*\* Consider the following C++ statements.

```
int set[10];
```

Write a `cin` statement that uses pointer notation to assign the value inputted to `set[7]`.

```
cin >> _____;
```

7. \*\* Rewrite the following loop using pointer notation (with the indirection operator) instead of subscript notation.

<pre>for (int i = 0; i &lt; 100; ++i)     cout &lt;&lt; arr[i] &lt;&lt; endl;</pre>	
---	--

8. \*\* Look at the following C++ function definition. In this function, n is a reference variable. Rewrite the function so that n is a pointer.

<pre>void getNumber(int &amp;n){     cout &lt;&lt; "Enter a number: ";     cin &gt;&gt; n; }</pre>	
--	--

9. \*\* Consider the following C++ program.

```
void change(int* ptr){
    *ptr = 25;
}
int main(){
    int num = 10;
    change(_____)
    return 0;
}
```

Write a statement that calls the function change with the integer variable num.

The value of num after the statement is executed is \_\_\_\_\_.

10. \*\* Given two integer variables, a and b, which are defined in the C++ main function.

How do you define the function swap for each of the following main functions such that the values stored in a and b will be swapped?

<pre>int main() {     int a = 45, b = 35;     swap(&amp;a, &amp;b); }</pre>	<pre>void swap(_____, _____) { }</pre>
<pre>int main() {     int a = 45, b = 35;     swap(a, b); }</pre>	<pre>void swap(_____, _____) { }</pre>

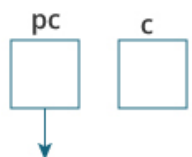
11. \*\* Consider the following C++ function

```
int mystery(int a, int* b, int& c) {
    a++;
    (*b)++;
    c++;
    return a;
}
```

Assume that the variables *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* are all initialized to 0. Identify their values after each of the following function calls.

	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
<code>mystery(a, &amp;b, c);</code>				
<code>mystery(c, &amp;d, a);</code>				
<code>c = mystery(b, &amp;a, d);</code>				
<code>a = mystery(a, &amp;a, a);</code>				

- 12.\*\* In the following table, the first row shows a sequence of C++ statements (from left to right), while the second row shows corresponding demonstrations for each of the above statement. For example, because the variables, *pc* and *c*, in the first statement are not initialized, the pointer *pc* points to no specific address, and variable *c* has an address but contains a random garbage value and hence is shown empty. Provide the demonstrations for subsequent statements.

<code>int* pc, c;</code>	<code>c = 22;</code>	<code>pc = &amp;c;</code>	<code>c = 11;</code>	<code>*pc = 2;</code>
				

- 13.\*\*\* Consider the following C++ statements,

```
int i = 5, j = 6, k = 7;
int *ip1 = &i, *ip2 = &j;
int **ipp;
```

Illustrate each of the following situations with the box-and-arrow notation

<code>ipp = &amp;ip1;</code>	<code>ipp = &amp;ip1;</code>	<code>*ipp = &amp;k;</code>
<i>i</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">5</span> <i>j</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">6</span> <i>k</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">7</span> <i>ip1</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span> <i>ip2</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span> <i>ipp</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span>	<i>i</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">5</span> <i>j</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">6</span> <i>k</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">7</span> <i>ip1</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span> <i>ip2</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span> <i>ipp</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span>	<i>i</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">5</span> <i>j</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">6</span> <i>k</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">7</span> <i>ip1</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span> <i>ip2</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span> <i>ipp</i> : <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">●</span>

- 14.\*\*\* Arrays are similar to pointers. One difference is that we cannot change the value of the array address, but we can change the value of a pointer variable. Using the C++ declaration given below, write down the result for each of the valid statements or “INVALID” for each of the invalid statements. Briefly give your reasons.

```
int i[15], *p1;
float x[15], *p2;
```

- `x = x + 1;` \_\_\_\_\_
- `x = p2 + 1;` \_\_\_\_\_
- `p2 = x + 1;` \_\_\_\_\_
- `p2 = p2 + 1;` \_\_\_\_\_
- `x[2] = x[2] + 1;` \_\_\_\_\_
- `&x[2] = p2;` \_\_\_\_\_

15.\*\*\* Assume the lines are executed sequentially on a system with 4-byte integers and the address of the blocks array is 4434. Give the value of the left-hand side variable in each assignment.

C++ program	Left-hand side variable
<pre> int main(){     char blocks[3] = {'A','B','C'};     char *ptr = &amp;blocks[0];     char temp;      temp = blocks[0];     temp = *(blocks + 2);     temp = *(ptr + 1);     temp = *ptr;      ptr = blocks + 1;     temp = *ptr;     temp = *(ptr + 1);      ptr = blocks;     temp = *++ptr;     temp = ++*ptr;     temp = *ptr++;     temp = *ptr;     return 0; } </pre>	

## True or False

Choose T (True) or F (False) for each of the following statements and then briefly explain in one or two sentences.

1. T F Arrays allow random access.
2. T F Arrays always occupy contiguous memory area.
3. T F When the indirection operator is used with a pointer variable, you are working with the value the pointer is pointing to.
4. T F An integer variable memory location can be modified only through `int*`
5. T F On a system with 4-byte integers, the next address of an `int` pointer will be 4 bytes apart.
6. T F A pointer variable that has not been initialized is called a *null pointer*.
7. T F `void*` is not a valid pointer.
8. T F For an `int` pointer `p`, `p[10]` is a valid expression.
9. T F Uninitialized memory accesses may lead to program crash.
10. T F For a `char` pointer `p`, `p--` is an invalid expression.
11. T F If `p` is a pointer variable, then the statement `p = p * 2;` is valid in C++.
12. T F Pointers enable programs to simulate call by value.
13. T F The following statement defines two integer pointers, `int *aptr, bptr;`
14. T F The `&` and `*` operators are complements of one another—when they are both applied consecutively to a pointer, in either order, there is no modification.
15. T F `delete ptr[];` is the right syntax to de-allocate a single dimensional array of integer pointer dynamically.



## Algorithm Workbench

1. \* Consider the following statement, `char s[] = "hello world";` Write code to make a copy of the string in `s` and have it referred to by the variable `p`.
2. \* Write code to input in a non-pointer variable and display the same value using pointer.
3. \* Write code to enter integers and store them in the variables, `iA` and `iB`, respectively. There are also two integer pointers, i.e. `ptrA` and `ptrB`. Assign the value of `iA` to `ptrA` and the value of `iB` to `ptrB`. Display the content of `ptrA` and `ptrB`.

For the following C++ code segment, use the pointer notation ONLY. Do NOT use the array index `[]`.

4. \*\* Given the string, "A string", and a pointer `ptr` that points to that string. Use `ptr` to print on one line the letter at the index 0, the pointer position and the letter t. Update the pointer to `pointer + 2`. Then, in another line, use `ptr` to print the whole content of the pointer and the letters r and g of the string.

5. \*\* Write a piece of code that prints the characters in a C-string in reverse order.

```
char s[10] = "abcde";  
char* cptr;  
// WRITE YOUR CODE HERE
```

6. \*\* Write the function, `countEven(int*, int)`, to receive an integer array and its size, and then return the number of even numbers in the array.
7. \*\* Write a function to return a pointer to the maximum value of an array of double numbers. If the array is empty, return NULL. The prototype of the function is as follows.

```
double* maximum(double* a, int size);
```

8. \*\* Write the function, `myStrLen(char*)`, to return the length of the parameter C-string, yet without using the C-string function `strlen`.
9. \*\* Write the function, `myStrContains(char*, char)`, that returns true if the 1st parameter C-string contains the 2nd parameter character, or false otherwise, without using the C-string search functions like `strchr` or `strrchr`.
10. \*\* Write the function, `revString(char*)`, to receive the parameter C-string. The function returns nothing. You may use the C-string handling functions if you wish.

```
void revString(char* ptr){  
  
    // WRITE YOUR CODE HERE  
  
}
```

```
int main(){  
    char s[10] = "abcde";  
    revString(s); // call the function  
    return 0;  
}
```